

***Bismarck Police Department***  
***2015 Annual Report***

# 2015 Annual Report



# *Bismarck Police Department*

## *2015 Annual Report*

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# *Bismarck Police Department*

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### Chief's Message

On behalf of the Bismarck Police Department, I am proud to present our 2015 Annual Report. This report provides an overview of the efforts and accomplishments of the department this past year. We are very proud of our accomplishments and service to our community. Because of the efforts of our energetic professional staff and our strong partnership with our citizens we continue to be one of the safest cities in the country.

In 2015 the City added four new officer FTEs; however, we lost federal funding for two grant officers. We also added one full-time position to our Support Service Division – a Quartermaster position. Our Quartermaster has made the purchasing and management of equipment extremely efficient and has saved the City thousands of dollars. We also were able to transition a current Police Youth Bureau (PYB) Youth Worker position into a PYB Youth Worker Supervisor position, which provides more efficient supervision in PYB.

We maintained our two DOJ grant-funded School Resource Officer (SRO) positions on our SRO team. One grant-funded SRO is assigned to the Bismarck Public Schools (BPS) and the other is assigned to the Light of Christ Catholic Schools of Excellence (LOCCSE), which is their first dedicated SRO within their school system. This keeps the total number of SROs serving our community at six.

Our staff continues to be very busy with our thriving and growing community. There are many exciting things happening in our community and we are very fortunate; however, this increasing growth and activity in our area continues to lead to a high demand in calls for police services. The workload continues to place increasing demands on the department's resources and we continually evaluate and strategize the most effective methods available to effectively utilize our resources and deliver police services to the community.

The department continues to effectively communicate with the citizens and visitors of Bismarck through our department's Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/bismarckpolice](http://www.facebook.com/bismarckpolice) and Twitter account: @BismarckPolice. This continues to be a very productive venture, both for the department and for the community. We are able to keep the public better informed in a timely manner and in turn, the community has been great in assisting us in providing information on crimes that occur in our community. We have posted many pictures and/or videos of crimes and suspects in crimes and the public's response has been nothing short of amazing. Without the assistance of the citizens we serve, many of our crimes would remain unsolved.

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### Chief's Message

The Bismarck Police Department continues to not only strive to maintain a high-level of professionalism, but is committed to ensuring the department maintains the Commission on Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) gold standards of excellence in delivering law enforcement services to the citizens of Bismarck. It is the great employees of the Bismarck Police Department that deserve recognition for our current award of "Accreditation with Excellence."

The staff at the Bismarck Police Department is committed to doing everything in our power to protect life and property and to preserve Bismarck's exceptional quality of life. Our goal is to do our job, and with the community's help, keep Bismarck as one of the safest cities in America. I am very proud of each member of our BPD team that works hard every day to provide our community with professional, innovative and efficient police services. They are truly compassionate and dedicated to providing professional service to the citizens and visitors of Bismarck. I am confident that working with our committed staff, committed City leadership, with continued support of our public officials, along with the support from community members we can continue to keep Bismarck a safe community that provides a great place to live, work and play. Together we will continue to meet and excel through the challenges that lay ahead.

I hope you find the information in this report to be informative and interesting. The staff of the Bismarck Police Department is proud to serve our community. If you have any comments or concerns, please feel free to contact me. Thank you for your continued support for the men and women at the Bismarck Police Department who proudly serve the Bismarck community and thank you for your help in making Bismarck a safe community.



Chief of Police Dan Donlin

# *Bismarck Police Department*

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## Mission Statement

### Mission Statement

The mission of the Bismarck Police Department is to protect life and property, provide professional customer service and foster community partnerships to preserve Bismarck's exceptional quality of life.

### Vision Statement

The Bismarck Police Department will be recognized as a premier law enforcement agency which provides exceptional customer service through professional, well trained, caring and innovative employees working in partnership with the community. We will foster an environment of honesty, trust, and mutual respect in which the Department and the community work together to resolve problems and promote public safety.

We will strive to provide progressive leadership at all levels with a dedicated service orientation. We will remain responsive to new ideas and provide opportunities for employees to develop to their highest potential.

We will fully explore and utilize emerging technology in order to maximize efficiency and effectiveness of our operations. We will strategically plan in order to anticipate enforcement challenges and prepare for the growth and expansion of our progressive community.

We will continue to build upon our success through open communications, forward thinking and willingness to embrace change.



*A Nationally Accredited Law Enforcement Agency*

# *Bismarck Police Department*

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## 2016 Goals

1. Hiring – Maintain and improve, where possible, the efficiency of the hiring process.
  - Refine the background investigation process and ensure sufficient and appropriate personnel are conducting background investigations and are trained in background investigations
2. Recruitment - Improve overall effectiveness of recruitment efforts along with an emphasis on minority groups.
  - Continue to analyze current recruitment practices
  - Continue to analyze practical and achievable strategies, to include a direct focused plan on recruitment of members of minority groups
  - Continue recruitment effort towards veterans by increasing recruitment efforts on/at Minot Air Force Base and through ND National Guard
  - Conduct Law Enforcement Exam testing at outside sites, such as various Law Enforcement Training Academies, colleges, universities, etc.
  - Utilize Social Media/Facebook in recruitment efforts
3. Maintain competitive employee salary and benefits.
  - Submit request for reclassification of positions as necessary
  - Participate in reclassification studies and provide information regarding possible salary/benefit inequities
  - Provide justification for appropriate salary/benefits to ensure proper recruitment and retention of employees
4. Analyze efficiencies of various public services offered by the department and develop strategies for improvement in overall services provided by PD staff.
  - Expand the use of volunteers into additional functions of the department
    - ◊ All Sections should analyze their need/use of volunteers
  - Continue analysis of Mounted Police Program
  - Monitor On-Line Reporting for improved efficiencies
    - ◊ Review reportable crimes
    - ◊ Keep putting word out on using, to include on Facebook
5. Implement a concerted effort in training of officers in core safety training areas.
  - Conduct In-Service training day in the following high-liability, low-frequency officer safety categories:
    - ◊ Active Aggressor (Shooter)
    - ◊ High-Risk Traffic Stops
    - ◊ Building Searches
    - ◊ Arrest & Control tactics
    - ◊ Search & Seizure
    - ◊ Implement Policeone.com training curriculum
6. Improve manpower presence in the field.
  - Commanders/Supervisors effectively manage officers' schedules/time off
  - Implement pilot project on alternative shift schedule (Analysis Based Policing)



# *Bismarck Police Department*

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## 2016 Goals

7. Increase Staff – Analyze the need for the following increase in staff.
  - Department Wide
    - ◊ Conduct a workload assessment to determine if need exists for additional FTE 's
  - Quartermaster Position
    - ◊ Hire and train the Quartermaster position (non-sworn) to perform property/equipment management/distribution tasks, vehicle inspections, and minor vehicle maintenance issues
  - Full-Time IT Assignment at PD
    - ◊ Continue to monitor and maintain documentation for the justification of a full-time IT employee to be assigned to PD
  - PYB Supervisor
    - ◊ Implement the PYB Youth Worker Supervisor position
  - Training Officer
    - ◊ Analyze the effectiveness of the Quartermaster position in relation to the need for an additional Training Officer – Whether the Training Sgt. now has more time to assist in training vs. a new position being requested
  - Evidence/Property Technician
    - ◊ Analyze the need for a new FTE or part-time position for efficiency
  - K-9 Patrol
    - ◊ Analyze the need for a 4<sup>th</sup> Patrol K-9 for the 2016 budget process
8. Improve the capacity and efficiency regarding the inventory of the department's Impound Building.
  - Develop and implement strategies to limit what we house and who we house property for; priority needs to be for PD related items
  - Dispose of no longer needed equipment to increase available space
9. Formalize Analysis Based Policing; Continue development of the Research and Analysis Officer position.
  - Evaluate the efficiency of DDACTS analysis of crime & traffic problems
  - Develop plans to address and resolve identified problems
  - Institute meetings necessary to efficiently present plans in a timely manner and to report results of activities conducted under the plans
  - Refine or revise plans to include Support Services as necessary
  - CP/CS to develop, implement and distribute a Public Crime Bulletin
10. Continue with internal succession planning .
  - Participate in City leadership development training program
  - Identify positions at risk due to retirement and ensure that persons are prepared to assume the duties of a position vacated by retirement(s)
  - Implement OTJ training of appropriate staff to fill-in in key positions
11. Continue to work closely with the City Change Management Coalition on the City Workforce Planning Project.
  - Succession planning
  - Recruitment
  - Salary/benefits

# *Bismarck Police Department*

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## 2016 Goals

12. Complete the following projects:
  - FS Commander to re-institute the Interoperable Communications Operational Plan Committee and to assign a department representative to the committee to implement training
  - Install and transition the new MDBs and office computers
13. Develop effective “high-ticket” equipment replacement plans.
  - Determine equipment for inclusion in replacement plans
  - Determine equipment lifespan & estimated future replacement cost
  - Develop plan to include budget/fiscal strategies
14. Evaluate/improve efficiency of the DUI administrative hearing process.
  - Collaborate with NDDOT and prosecutors regarding efficiency of process
15. Improve sergeant’s professional development and communications
  - Institute Sergeant In-Service Training (as needed)
    - ◊ Lieutenants to determine, through surveying sergeants, the training topics needed and provide Training a comprehensive list for implementation
  - Implement a Sergeant’s Meeting – Quarterly – to discuss, network and share issues and resolutions
16. Conduct an analysis of our dictation/transcription process.
  - Research voice recognition systems as well as 24-hour transcription services
17. Research and develop policy/procedure specific to “In-Custody” deaths.
  - Research IACP and other accredited agencies to devise a comprehensive policy surrounding “In-Custody Deaths,” to include excited delirium
18. Field Services to review and improve our patrol emergency response policy.
  - Analyze and draft an efficient policy for emergency response driving in order to reduce the number of squad car accidents involving emergency response to alarms and medical calls as well as other emergencies
19. Training to research viability of bringing in the Force Science Certification Course.
  - Obtain cost and funding source to bring in Force Science’s Certification Course on Officer Involved Shooting Investigations and have open for state-wide attendance, to include and with emphasis on BCI agents attending
20. Review Sergeant promotion process
  - Review and analyze the efficiency and effectiveness of the current processes used in the Sergeant promotion process; specifically, the written test to screen candidates to ten



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### **BISMARCK POLICE DEPARTMENT**

### **STAFFING TABLE 2015**

**113 sworn and 30 civilian positions authorized for 2015**

The following table reflects the number of personnel by rank or job title within the various divisions and sections of the Bismarck Police Department.

#### **ADMINISTRATION– 2 Employees**

**1- Chief of Police (Dan Donlin)**

**1- Accounting Coordinator (Christie Kaylor)**

#### **FIELD SERVICES DIVISION– 101 Employees**

The Field Services Division comprises of many different sections of the police department. They are Patrol; Traffic, which includes Parking Enforcement and Animal Control; Investigations, which includes Gaming, Narcotics Unit, and Warrants. Additionally, the Field Services Division includes the following specialized teams: West Dakota SWAT Team/Hostage Negotiations Team, Bomb Squad, and the K-9 Program. Ninety-two (92) out of the One Hundred Nine (109) sworn officers in the department are assigned to the Field Services Division.

**1-Deputy Chief (Randy Ziegler)**

#### **PATROL SECTION**

**4- Lieutenants**

**8- Sergeants**

**52- Police Officers**

#### **INVESTIGATIONS SECTION**

**1- Lieutenant**

**2- Sergeants**

**15- Investigators**

**1- Office Assistant II**

**3- Warrant Officers**

#### **TRAFFIC SECTION**

**1- Lieutenant**

**1- Sergeant**

**6- Police Officers**

**2- Car Markers**

**3- Animal Wardens**

#### **Accreditation**

**1-Police Officer**

#### **SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION– 40 Employees**

**1 - Deputy Chief (Dave Draovitch)**

#### **JUVENILE SERVICES**

**1- Lieutenant**

**6- Officers**

**6- Youth Workers**

**1- Office Assistant II**

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES**

**1- Lieutenant**

**1- Officers**

**8-Record Technicians**

**1-Records Supervisor**

#### **SUPPORT SERVICES**

**1- Lieutenant**

**2- Sergeants**

**4- Officers**

**3- Maintenance**

**2- Evidence Technicians**

**1- Office Assistant II**

**1– Quartermaster**

# ***Bismarck Police Department***

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### **Bismarck Police Department Departures**

Steve Cysewski (Ret.)

Tim Krous

Jeff Azure (Ret.)

Joe Arenz

Scott Betz

Matthew Fullerton

Dave Hess

Brent Mertz

Colt Bohn

Darla Mork

Janell Pederson

Katie Renz

Susan Ronning

Elliott Waterbury

Christopher Tracy

Mark Thueson

Daniel Kusler

Shaun Schatz

Marjorie Kimball

Thomas Bergman

### **Active Military Duty**

None

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### Patrol Section

The Field Services Division comprises of many different sections of the police department. They are Patrol; Traffic, which includes Parking Enforcement and Animal Control; Investigations, which includes Gaming, Narcotics Unit, and Warrants. Additionally, the Field Services Division includes the following specialized teams: West Dakota SWAT Team/Hostage Negotiations Team, Bomb Squad, and the K-9 Program. Ninety-five (95) out of the one-hundred-thirteen (113) sworn officers in the department are assigned to the Field Services Division.

The Field Services Division personnel are among the best trained officers in the State of North Dakota with many officers providing training to other officers throughout the state. The officers continually demonstrate the highest degree of professionalism under difficult circumstances as they serve the community under the department's mission statement.

#### PATROL SECTION

Patrol Operations is comprised of uniformed officers providing coverage for the City of Bismarck 24 hours a day, 365 days of the year. Patrol officers respond to calls for service and engage in proactive enforcement including traffic enforcement and neighborhood patrols. Officers are assigned to either Day Shift or Night Shift. They are assigned to a specific area or "beat" of the City and are responsible for responding to calls for service and engaging in proactive duties in that area. The top priority for officers on patrol continues to be fighting crime and solving problems, while building relationships within the community.

The Patrol Section is the largest section of the department. The officers working in the Patrol Section are the officers most commonly seen by the public. Patrol officers are the first responders to all emergency and non-emergency calls for service. They patrol 400 + miles of roadways in the City of Bismarck.

The Patrol Section is comprised of four (4) patrol shifts. When at full strength each shift consists of a total of sixteen (16) officers: one Lieutenant, two Sergeants and thirteen officers. The shifts work a rotating 12 hour shift schedule, rotating between day shift and night shift every two weeks. Additionally, as manpower allows, officers are assigned to a power shift in which the officers work a fixed 12 hour schedule from 3 p.m. to 3 a.m. The power shift officers provide manpower staffing during the "peak" activity times as well as during the shift changeover. The Patrol Shift Commanders are Lt. Mike McMerty (20 years experience), Lt. Cody Trom (18 years experience), Lt. Glen Ternes (10 years experience) and Lt. Chad Fetzer (8 years experience).

In 2015, Patrol officers were involved in 81,578 patrol activities, which is an increase of 10.86% from the 73,587 patrol activities in 2014. There were 37,232 calls for service in 2015 compared to 34,130 in 2014 which is a 9.09% increase. A call for service is a request from the public for police assistance. These calls for

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### Patrol Section

service involve a wide variety of situations ranging from serious emergencies to minor situations.

For example, the Patrol officer may respond to a simple parking complaint one minute and the next call could be for a subject with a gun, or a baby who has stopped breathing. Officers wrote 14,831 citations in 2015 compared to 15,623 in 2014 (5.07% decrease), 508 DUI/APC arrests compared to 538 in 2014 (5.57% decrease), and 5,683 adult and juvenile arrests during 2015, which resulted in 6,517 charges.

In addition to their regular patrol duties, many officers accept the responsibility of performing specialized functions in other necessary areas throughout the department. In 2015 there were sixteen (16) officers assigned to the West Dakota SWAT Team, five (5) on the Negotiations Unit, five (5) on the Bomb Squad, and three (3) comprised the K-9 Unit. All three K-9 teams have dual purpose dogs and are assigned to Patrol. Many officers take on even more responsibilities and choose to attend specialized training in varying areas to include, but not limited to; becoming instructors, Field Training Officer (FTO), Intoxilyzer Operators, Drug Recognition Expert (DRE), and Crisis Intervention Team (CIT).

There are five (5) Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) officers that have advanced knowledge and skills to better respond to calls for service that involve individuals in crisis and/or struggling with varying levels of mental illness. All CIT officers have been working to train and educate their shifts in the CIT principles.

Patrol Lieutenants, in addition to their regular assignments as a Patrol Shift Commander, perform other management assignments such as coordinating special projects or commanding specialized units. The Patrol Lieutenants have the overall responsibility for all police activities occurring during their shifts.



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### Traffic Section

The section is supervised by Lt. Jeff Solemsaas and Sgt. Luke Gardiner. Sgt. Gardiner joined the Traffic Section in June after the resignation of Sgt. Tim Krous. The section is currently missing two officers in a traffic enforcement position with the resignation of Officer Colt Bohn and the promotion of Officer Jordan West to Sergeant.

When fully staffed, the traffic section has four (4) traffic investigators and two (2) traffic enforcement officers. There are three (3) animal control wardens and two car markers. Throughout 2015 some of the Traffic officers have been reassigned to the Patrol section to assist with manpower shortages and to help with the field training of recruit officers. The traffic investigators typically focus on collision investigation and following up on hit and run reports. The traffic enforcement officers are assigned to the low profile vehicle and concentrate on traffic enforcement especially in areas that have been reported as having traffic related concerns.

For the second year, the total number of collisions declined. In 2015 there were a total of 3,720 collisions reported to the department. This is down from 3,971 collisions investigated in 2014. This is promising news due to the fact that traffic statistics show that there has been a considerable increase in the amount of vehicles traveling within the city.

If a collision occurs on a city street it is considered to be a traffic collision. This only applies to streets in which the City of Bismarck has jurisdiction over the traffic flow. Of the total number of collisions for 2015, 2,367 were considered "traffic collisions".

The top five intersections for collisions in 2015 were as follows:

State St. / Century Ave	21
9 <sup>th</sup> St. / Main Ave	16
State St. / Interstate Ave	15
4 <sup>th</sup> St. / Century Ave	13
3 <sup>rd</sup> St. / Front Ave	12

These numbers do not necessarily account for all the collisions that occur at a given intersection. In order to be considered as an intersection collision the vehicles must be within the bisecting curb lines. If a vehicle were stopped at a red light, for example, and was rear ended it would not be considered as an intersection collision. This may explain the drop in the number of collisions at a particular intersection. Prior to my taking over command of the Traffic section numerous collisions were reported as intersection collisions when they, in fact, were not but are considered "intersection related".

A significant portion of the collisions investigated are considered "non-traffic". This is the description given to collisions that occur off of the publicly maintained roads such as private parking lots or mobile home road-

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### Traffic Section

ways in which the city has no jurisdiction over traffic control measures. There were a total of 1,356 non-traffic collisions in 2015 (36% of the total collisions). This also includes the collisions that are considered “non-reportable”, which occurs when the estimated damage is less than \$1000.

The top five locations for non-traffic collisions for 2015 are:

Kirkwood Mall	78
WalMart south	37
Sanford	31
WalMart North	30
Cashwise	28

In the course of the collision investigation the officers attempt to determine the contributing factors leading to the collision. The following are the top contributing factors for collisions in 2015:

Fail to Yield	446
Following too Close	371
Too Fast for Conditions	246
Careless/ Reckless Driving	224
Attention Distracted- Inside vehicle	125
Improper Turn	125
Ran Red Light	123
Other	179
Attention Distracted- outside vehicle	74
Improper Lane Change	60
Vision Obstructed	55
Improper Evasive Action	48
Attention Distracted- cell phone/ other electronic device	37
Disregard Traffic Signals	37

It should be noted that the above listed contributing factors is for traffic collision only and does not reflect that factors from either non- traffic or non-reportable collisions. In non-traffic or private property collisions that primary factor is improper backing.

The traffic officers investigated a total of seventy-five (75) hit and run reports in 2015. The traffic officers are generally assigned a case for follow up if there is any evidence that may be used to identify the striking vehicle in a hit and run. In a large portion of the reported hit and runs there is no available evidence that can be



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### **Traffic Section**

used to indicate a suspect vehicle. Thirty-eight (38) of the assigned hit and run reports were successfully closed (51%) and this total does not include the reports that are still under investigation (33 or 44%). The traffic officers issued a total of 3,010 citations for traffic violations during 2015.

There are two traffic enforcement officers assigned to the traffic section. The primary responsibility of these officers is the enforcement of traffic violations. They also investigate all the reported school bus violations that are reported to the department. These two officers accounted for 1,139 citations in 2015. They are frequently assigned to areas that the department has received complaints about. These two officers generally operate a low profile vehicle that has worked well for the enforcement of traffic violations.

The Traffic officers are also responsible for the enforcement of the city's load restriction. In past years we have worked closely with the North Dakota Highway Patrol and the City of Bismarck Engineering Department to take measures to protect the city's roadways due to the fact that overweight vehicles cause increased damage to the streets particularly during the spring season when the under surface is susceptible to damage.

There are two parking enforcement officers who have the responsibility to enforce the parking ordinances in the downtown parking district. They also assist with the enforcement of the 48 hour parking violations which keeps them very busy during the winter months. The parking enforcement officers also enforce the handicapped parking violations at various locations throughout the city and assist on escorts for oversized/ overweight loads being brought through the community. The Bismarck Police Department issued a total of 11,419 parking citations in 2015; the car markers issued 10,845 of those parking citations.

One of the goals I had established for the car markers was to increase the enforcement of the handicapped parking violations. In 2015 the two car markers issued a total of 842 parking citations for violations of this ordinance.

There are three animal control wardens assigned to the Traffic section. The animal control wardens have the main responsibility to enforce the animal ordinances in the City of Bismarck. They are also responsible to maintain and administer the animal impound facility. They assist the departments patrol section by delivering mail and retrieving abandoned bicycles and entering them into evidence. The animal control wardens also administer the city's archery program that attempts to reduce the deer and turkey population issues on city owned property.

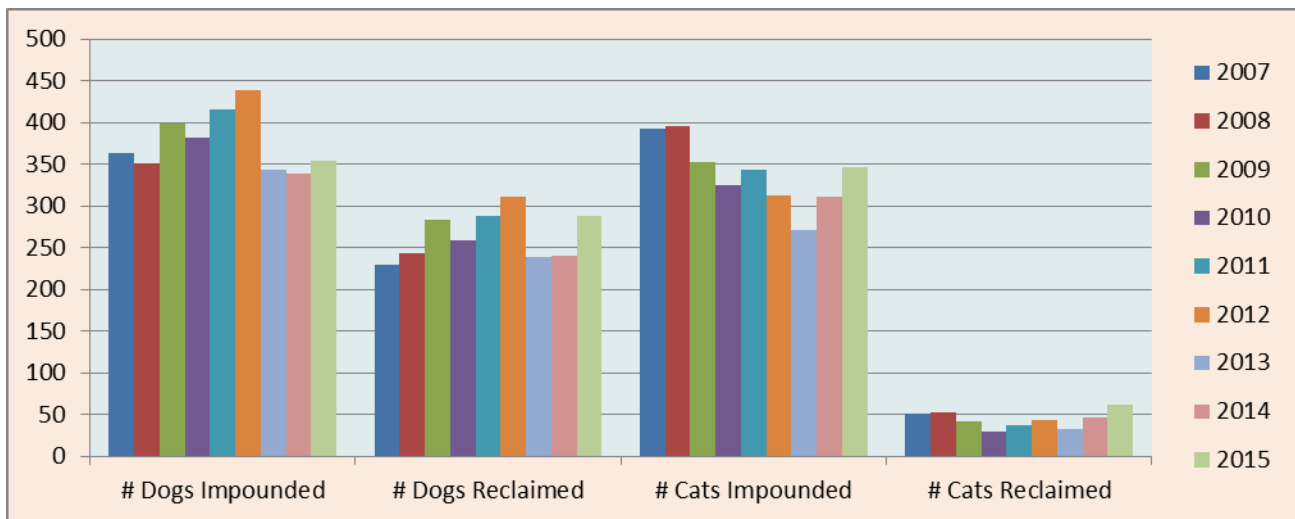
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### Animal Control

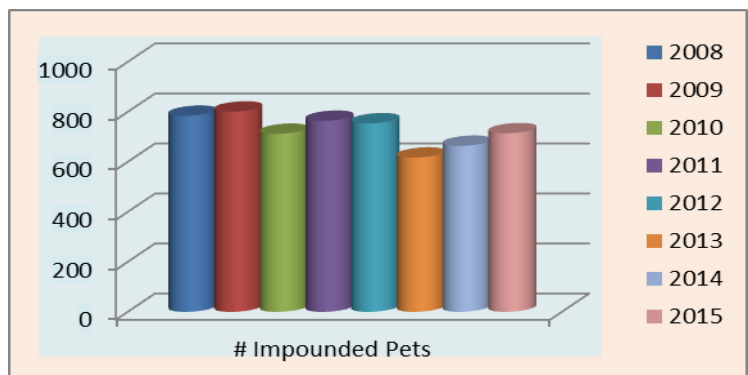
2015 proved to be another busy and interesting year as the city continues to grow, so does the amount of animal calls we respond to and the territory we cover. With the steady influx of people from other states we find ourselves dealing with a number of homeless people with pets and also variety of unique and unusual animals.

The following graph shows the comparisons from 2007 through 2015:



In summary, in 2014 there were 339 dogs and 311 cats impounded for a total of 650; compared to 2015 where 354 dogs, 346 cats were impounded, for a total of 700, 50 more animals then the year before. The percentages of reclaimed dogs increased to 81.4% in 2015 (up from 71% in 2014) and reclaimed cats increased to 18.1 % (up from 15% in 2014). Cats continue to be the “disposable pet” with such low reclaimed numbers.

The total number of animals impounded in Bismarck:



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### Animal Control

In 2015, the 700 dogs, cats and others impounded were down by 87 from the highest number of impound pets since records have been kept. "Other animals" include domestic rats, ferrets, rabbits, hamsters, guinea pigs and tame birds. Calls regarding wildlife have steadily increased to include, raccoons, badgers, porcupines, skunks to muskrats, squirrels to bats and snakes, wild turkeys, mountain lions and deer. With the assistance of the Dakota Zoo we have been able to correctly identify, handle and tranquilize these animals.



This year Animal Control received a new truck along with a cargo box designed especially for hauling animals. This unit will allow us to safely transport more animals at one time, if needed, and be better equipped for the terrains that we encounter.

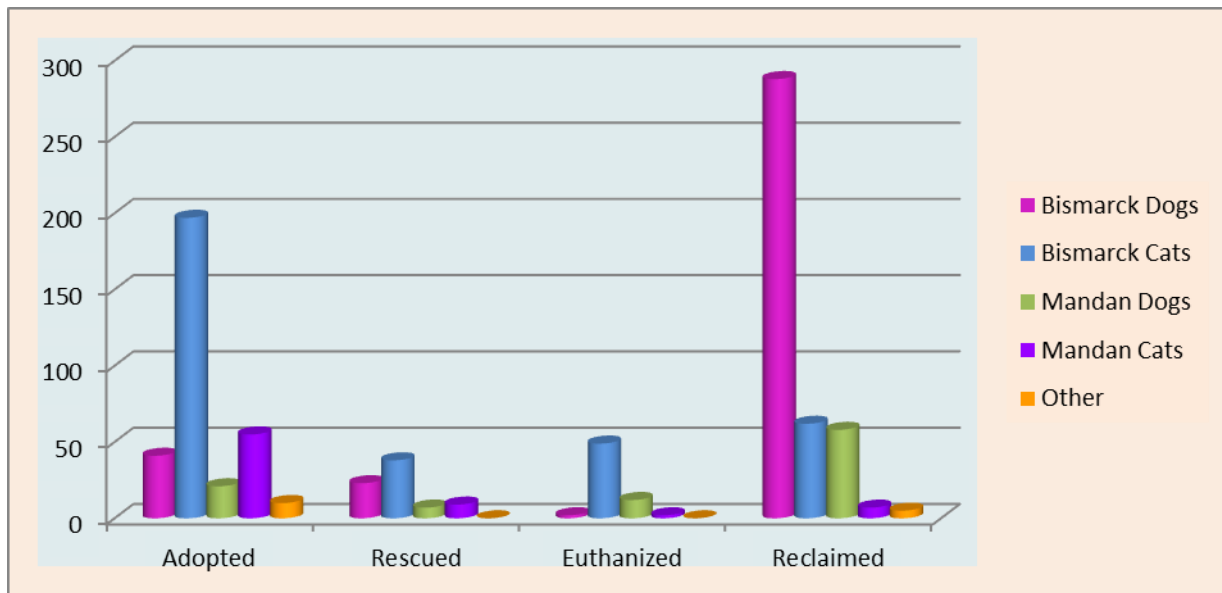
We continue to see moose traveling through the city limits, some are less interested in what the city has to offer and move on. We have also seen an influx of calls relating to coyotes within the city boundaries or close proximity to them. Another public concern is the increase of rodents in vacant fields. Colonies of ground squirrels, gophers and muskrats have been showing up within the city. The public's fascination with these animals and other wildlife cause concern for the welfare of not only the wildlife, but the people who gather to watch and try to interact with them. Animal control and the police are tasked with the job of keeping the public safe and allowing these animals to move about freely and hopefully find their way out of town.

With the help of volunteers, Animal Control Officers take care of impounded animals which are housed in the Bismarck-Mandan Animal Impound Facility. Unclaimed pets are evaluated for adoption, and many are placed with rescue groups around the states and Canada. Also, with the generous donations of food, treats, blankets, and toys, etc. from local merchants, the city was able to save \$4455 in food and supplies.

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### Animal Control



In 2015 a total of 77 dogs, cats and other animals went to rescue groups and humane societies; 62 dogs were adopted to homes, of which 21 were from Mandan's unclaimed dogs, another 252 cats were adopted to homes and farms, of which 55 were from Mandan's unclaimed cats. All totaled, the Bismarck-Mandan Animal Control Facility placed 401 unclaimed pets in 2015. We are able to utilize the City website, Bismar Online and also Petfinder to post pictures of animals, allowing the public to see what animals have been impounded and also are up for adoption.

Officers responded to 2416 calls related to animals, resulting in 676 reports filed with the City. Animal Control Officers continue to work with pet owners for compliance of the City's animal ordinances including barking dog complaints, cats and dogs doing their "business" on people's properties, running at large, and license compliance. The Animal Control officers also follow up with cruelty complaints ranging from physical abuse to neglect and too many pets. With proper education, most complaints are resolved, but when appropriate, complaints are sent to the City Attorney for prosecution. Licenses are undervalued by pet owners that do not realize that licenses are the best tool officers have of finding owners and getting pets home quickly, often with no fees, but if impounded, a reduction of fees is assessed when a pet is wearing a license.

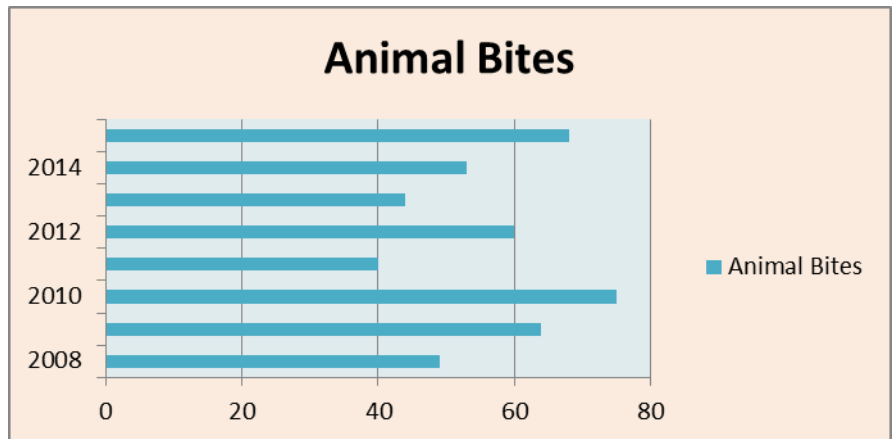
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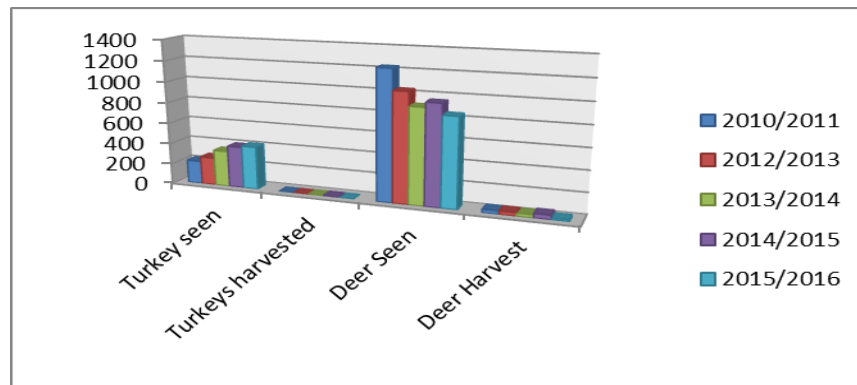
### Animal Control

Also included in duties are following up with animal bites to humans. There was 105 calls related to animal bites, with 68 reports taken, this has increased in 2015:

Animal Wardens ensure that the offending pets are current with rabies vaccinations, examined by a veterinarian and quarantined, then re-examined to ensure they are healthy. Victims of animal bites are informed of the status of the pet.



The 2015/2016 In-City Bow Hunting program continues to be a big success, helping to keep the deer population stable and to reduce vehicle/deer collisions. This is the 28th year for the program. All 50 permits were issued within hours of them being available, and included the fifth year of a turkey season. With the hunting zones being GPS, it has given the hunters a more accurate view of the borders and also has simplified the tagging of the zones.



Through the returned questionnaires, there were 17 deer harvested and 1 turkey. Hunters reported sighting 846 deer and 411 turkeys during the season. In the comments section, hunters reported problems with too many hunters in the same area and tree stands too close to each other, problems with pedestrians walking dogs off leash in the fields also 4 wheelers and snowmobiles in the areas during the hunt. Other concerns were items such as trail cams and blinds being stolen and stands not being properly marked. Over all, hunters were pleased and also encouraged the continuation of the program and many expressed appreciation for the opportunity.

# *Bismarck Police Department*

## *2015 Annual Report*

## Criminal Investigations

### INTRODUCTION

The following material is provided as an overview of the Investigations Section of the Bismarck Police Department for the year 2015. The Section is responsible for the investigation of most felony and non-traffic criminal cases requiring lengthy follow-up occurring within the City of Bismarck.

The Criminal Investigations Section falls within the Field Services Division of the Bismarck Police Department. Lieutenant Gary Malo is the Investigation Section Commander and he reports directly to the Field Services Deputy Chief. When at full strength, there are twenty-two people assigned to Investigations; one Lieutenant, one Office Assistant, two Sergeants, and fifteen Investigators and three warrants officers. Each of the two sergeants has a group of investigators under their supervision. When fully staffed, Sgt. Gaddis has eight investigators assigned to him and Sgt. Marks has seven investigators, plus three Warrants Officers assigned to him. Each of the investigators are assigned cases according to their portfolio. Three investigators are assigned to work Personal Crimes; three investigators are assigned to work Property Crimes; one investigator is assigned to work Financial/Auto Thefts and one investigator is assigned to work Gaming Investigations. Also one warrant officer is also assigned to conduct sex offender registration compliance. A property crimes investigator and a personal crimes investigator are also trained and actively investigate Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC). Five investigators are assigned to work Narcotic Investigations, with three of the investigators assigned to work out of the Bismarck Police Department and two investigators assigned to work out of the Metro Area Narcotic Task Force. The Metro Area Narcotic Task Force is a multi-jurisdictional task force consisting of officers from local, state and federal law enforcement agencies within this region.

The Department applied for and received a grant through the Violence Against Women's Act (VAWA) in 2009 and this grant was renewed for another two years in 2011. The Department applied again in 2014 for this grant but was not selected. We did apply for an extension, which was granted.

With this extension, this grant ended on February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2015. This grant provides funding for two specialized investigators to improve the department's ability to specifically address the violence against women in domestic violence situations, sexual assault and stalking incidents. These two investigative positions are in addition to the normal complement of personnel assigned to the Investigations Section. Although these two positions are no longer grant funded, they remained in the investigations section for the year of 2015 and will continue through 2016.



# *Bismarck Police Department*

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## **Criminal Investigations**

### **EQUIPMENT**

There is a considerable amount of equipment under the Investigation Section's control. This includes equipment for crime scene processing, numerous types of cameras to include, video, and digital. The Section also maintains surveillance cameras and recording equipment to include night vision scopes and both audio and video recorders. Miniature video cameras, which are easily hidden, are used to record criminal activity as it occurs. Numerous employees suspected of stealing from legalized gaming organizations and other businesses have been caught and held accountable as a result of this equipment. The Section also has a number of listening devices used primarily in narcotics investigations. In addition, all of the investigative interview rooms have the capability to record both video and audio. The Investigations Section also maintains specialized alarm equipment and motion-detector alarms.

### **TECHNOLOGY**

All personnel within the Investigations Section have a computer that allows access to department files/reports, state programs, CJIS data files, MOCIC data files, and various other programs including the Internet. The Section also has access to two investigation search tools. They are; Leadsonline & Clear. Leadsonline operates and maintains at its web site a confidential investigations system accessible electronically exclusively by Law Enforcement Agencies for the sole purpose of identifying merchandise and/or persons suspected to have been involved in crimes. Clear can assist investigators in locating people, assets, businesses, affiliations, and make connections among individuals, incidents, activities, and locations.

The Section is increasingly utilizing digital equipment and technology as it becomes available. The Section also has additional computers and software that were obtained through a grant by the Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) to investigate Internet Crimes Against Children cases (ICAC) & human trafficking cases.

### **CASE MANAGEMENT AND MANPOWER ALLOCATION**

In order to develop an area of expertise, investigators are assigned a certain portfolio (personal or property related crimes) of cases. This allows them to become knowledgeable of the investigative techniques required for specific types of crimes. All investigators are, at times, assigned to investigate crimes outside of their portfolio due to being on-call, high caseloads and staffing shortages.

Most often the Investigator on-call will retain the cases they investigate because they have obtained first-hand knowledge of the facts and circumstances. This allows the officers to investigate in a more effective and efficient manner. New and inexperienced investigators are not assigned as the primary investigator of a serious case until after they have been in the section six months to a year.

# *Bismarck Police Department*

## *2015 Annual Report*

### Criminal Investigations

Support Services and Field Services representatives route cases to Investigations on a daily basis. When a case comes into the Investigations Section, it has already been assigned to a specific investigator. All investigative time spent on a case is tracked through by computer and this data is available for statistical purposes and for use in manpower allocation determinations.

There were approximately 1245 cases sent to the Section to be investigated in 2013, and 1301 in 2014. In 2015 there were 1227 cases sent to the Section. The 1227 cases sent to the Investigations Section required 12,942 employee investigative hours. In addition the section had 2,343 hours of contacts, 5,073 hours of phone calls, and 2,910 hours were spent in court activities for a total of 23,268 hours. This equated to an average of 18.9 investigative hours per case. There are 241 active cases out of the 1227 cases sent to the Section during the year 2015. Out of these 1227 cases, 388 were cleared by arrest, 342 were exceptionally cleared and 51 were closed unfounded. The Section had a clearance rate of 59% for the year of 2015, 63% in 2014, and 63% in 2013. A manpower allocation analysis was completed for 2013 which indicated that there should be 18 investigators assigned to the section. There are currently seventeen investigators (This includes the two Sergeants) assigned to the section. (It should be noted although seventeen investigators are assigned to the section, for a good part of 2014 the section only had fifteen investigators & for part of 2015 the section only had twelve investigators actually working in the section. The additional investigators assigned were not able to transfer from patrol to investigations due to lack of personnel. The lack of personnel was due to promotions, retirements and resignations. It is anticipated all positions will be filled by late spring of 2016.

#### **MAJOR CASES**

In August 2015, officers responded to the Ramada Inn for a report of an armed robbery that just occurred. Officers arrived shortly after but the suspect had already fled from the scene. The night clerk reported a black male walked into the hotel lobby and pointed what she thought was a handgun at her and demanded all the cash from the safe. Through interviews with the night clerk and viewing the surveillance video, a suspect was developed. Detectives eventually secured a search warrant for a residence that the suspect was known to stay at. The search warrant was executed and detectives did find the suspects clothing that he was wearing during the robbery. Through the investigation, detectives were able to establish that the suspect was now in Nashville, TN. An arrest warrant was issued and sent to the authorities in TN. Law Enforcement in TN located the suspect and arrested him. The suspect was transported back to Bismarck, placed in jail. Trial is pending at this time.

# *Bismarck Police Department*

## *2015 Annual Report*

### **Criminal Investigations**

In October 2015, officers responded to a Bismarck hospital for a male subject that was just dropped off at the ER with a gunshot wound to the chest. The victim reported he was jumped by three males, struck on the head and then shot in the chest. The only information that was given to the officers regarding who dropped off the victim at the hospital, was a red Pontiac. A detective was called to assist the officers with the case. Shortly after, the vehicle with the two occupants that drove the victim to the hospital was located and stopped. Through the interviews with the occupants of the vehicle and through the investigation, officers were able to identify the alleged suspect and locate the crime scene. The suspect was eventually located and interviewed. The suspect reported he had the firearm for protection and during an argument, the victim tried to take his firearm away and it went off and struck the victim in the chest. The suspect was arrested and charged with Attempted Murder and is being held in jail waiting for trial that is scheduled for some time in May of 2016.

In November 2015, dispatch received a 911 call from a female who reported that her ex-husband just shot her boyfriend. Officers responded and set up a perimeter. The suspect eventually came out of the residence and was momentarily detained. The suspect then jumped a fence and fled on foot leaving the scene. Detectives arrived and began to process the scene. Located inside the residence, lying on a couch, was a deceased adult male with a bullet wound to the head. During the interview with the female caller/victim, she reported that she and her boyfriend were sleeping on the couch in the living room. The female victim reported she was awoken by her ex-husband (suspect) who was beating her with a handgun. Eventually she realized that her boyfriend had been shot and it appeared the suspect was going to kill her as well. The female victim was eventually able to escape, run to a neighbors and call 911. Detectives eventually pinged the suspects phone and it was determined the suspect was in the area of Dunn Co. Dunn Co. law enforcement was given the location of the last cell phone ping and eventually located the suspect in a park deceased. The suspect had hung himself.

#### **INTERNET CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN (ICAC)**

As of 2013, we had two Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) investigators. They had both received additional training throughout 2014 and received more equipment in order to help fight ICAC cases. Due to the ongoing training and the additional equipment received in 2014, the Bismarck Police Department is now capable of performing their own forensics on computer/electronic equipment. Both investigators personally worked 27 cases and assisted other investigators and patrol officers with their cases throughout 2015. These cases are primarily Luring Minors by Computer type cases where the suspect is attempting to meet someone under the age of eighteen to have sexual contact with. The majority of the time the suspect is actually communicating with one of the investigators who are posing as a person under the age of 18.

# ***Bismarck Police Department***

## ***2015 Annual Report***

## **Criminal Investigations**

### **GAMING REPORT**

Bismarck Police Department's gaming enforcement activities during the year of 2015:

Gaming Tax Paid to City of Bismarck for the year 2015	\$37,433
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By quarters: (Biennium)

July, August, September 2014	\$ 13,089
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October/November/December 2014	\$ 8,029
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January/February/March 2015	\$ 8,743
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April/May/June 2015	\$ 7,572
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Adjusted Gross Proceeds of Bismarck Gaming Sites

By Quarters (Biennium)

July/August/September 2014	\$1,357,084
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October/November/December 2014	\$1,566,698
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January/February/March 2015	\$1,875,073
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April/May/June 2015	\$1,641,279
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July/August/September 2015	\$1,389,783
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The numbers for the activity in October, November, and December 2015 will not be available until March 2016.

The 2015 Legislature authorized a change to NDCC 53-06.1-14(3), effective August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015, which requires a gaming stamp to be affixed to each raffle board conducted by an organization. Any organization wishing to conduct a raffle board must have a current and valid state gaming license, local permit, or charity local permit.

# *Bismarck Police Department*

## *2015 Annual Report*

## Criminal Investigations

The Commissioners for the City of Bismarck held a public hearing and a second reading on city ordinance 6183 relating to rules and regulations for granting gaming site authorizations. The change was made in 6-06-04 of the city ordinance specifically regarding NDCC section 53-06.1-03.

### **BISMARCK POLICE DEPARTMENT NARCOTICS UNIT**

The BPD Narcotics Unit consists of three investigators. They are supervised by a sergeant and commanded by a lieutenant who oversee the day to day operations for the unit and also assist on cases as needed.

The general objectives of the Narcotics Unit is the reduction of narcotic crimes through aggressive enforcement of existing laws, to work on major cases, assist patrol, sign narcotic complaints for court, work with businesses and citizens of this area to form a community based relationship through education and presentations, assist other agencies, and to proactively work narcotic cases.

During the year 2015 the Bismarck Police Department responded to only 1 partial clandestine Methamphetamine lab.

The Narcotics Unit was assigned approximately 263 reports for follow up during the 2015 calendar year. All told they were assigned 360 cases in total. The last 100 or so may or may not have had a narcotic connection but due to manpower constraints the three Narcotic Investigators were assigned other investigations too. Over half those cases involve multiple defendants who may also have been arrested and charged. The narcotics unit also responded to dozens of requests to assist other agencies only 26 times did it necessitate a case report. Literally dozens of times any one or more of the Narcotics Investigators have been called by patrol to assist or take over a case initiated by patrol. These are not reflected in any statistic for assisting and many times the report may not be assigned to them either. The Narcotics Unit signed up 19 separate Confidential Informants (CI) and performed at least 42 controlled buys with them in 2015 with a limited budget. The Narcotics Unit did not run out of buy money this year as it did last. We were much more active in other areas as is evident by the dollar amount of forfeitures requested.

During 2015, the Bismarck Police Department seized and requested forfeiture on 12 vehicles, approximately \$108,894.86 in cash and numerous pieces of other property such as cell phones, gaming systems, electronics and jewelry etc. The department seized a total of 30 firearms in 2015. The Bismarck Police Department also

# *Bismarck Police Department*

## *2015 Annual Report*

### **Criminal Investigations**

seized 110.1 ounces or 6 lbs 14.10 ounces of Marijuana, 8.29 grams of Hashish, 11.85 grams of Cocaine, 4969.34 grams or 10 lbs 15.28 ounces of Methamphetamine, 39.93 grams of Heroin, 33 Dosage Unit Morphine, 2 grams Opium, 14 dosage units of LSD and 162.33 grams, 283 dosage units with 1440 units with no measurement drugs labeled as other/unknown.

Arrests for the use, sale and possession of Synthetic Canaboids in 2015 again is almost non-existent at this time due to a tough new law and successful prosecution of the those using, possessing and selling it. The landmark case from 2012 (Discontent CR# 12-10526) was just settled in 2015 successfully. Synthetic Canaboids are still available over the internet but the availability from local sources are almost non-existent. Post 2012 the raw numbers of ingestion, possession of Synthetic Canaboids is virtually non-existent still.

With the decline of oil prices and the slowing of the economy it does not appear as though the appetite for narcotics has slowed in turn. It very well may, but may lag behind the economy.

Many of the workforce may have left western North Dakota but that does not mean that those with the narcotic vices have left, instead they just do not have as much money to spend on it. Also it appears as though for 2015 organized groups such as OMC's and gangs from out of state are taking on a much more active and high profile role in the trafficking of narcotics.

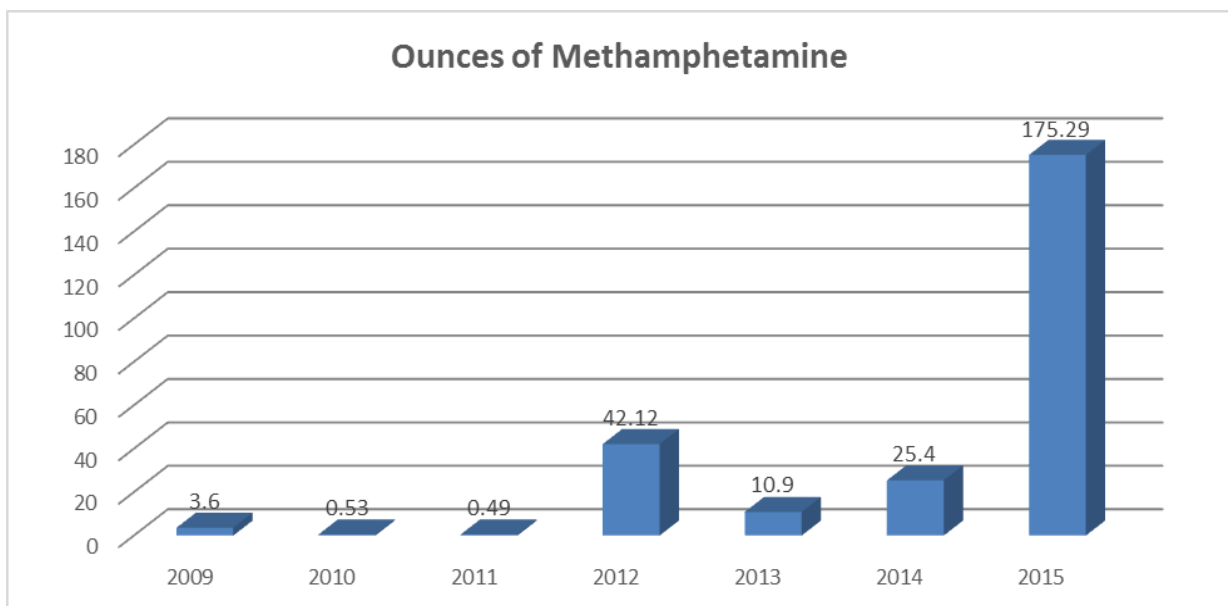
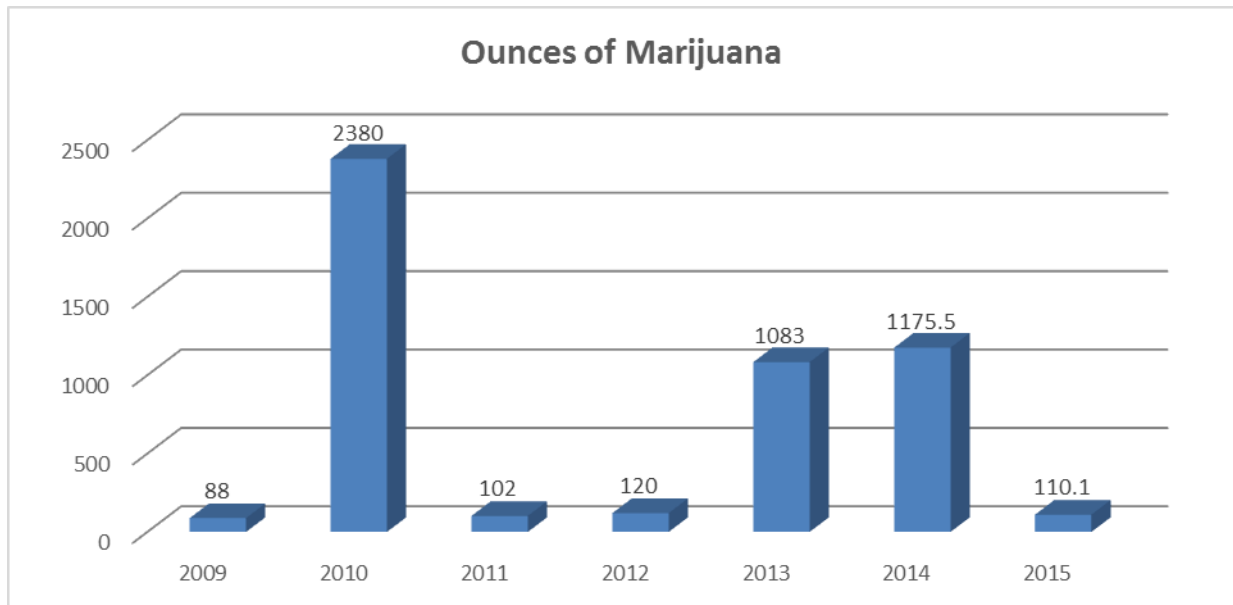
The following charts depict the amount of Marijuana, Cocaine and Methamphetamine seized by the Bismarck Police Department from 2009 to 2015. The actual numbers are higher than what the records indicate due to human error factors such as narcotics being added later and amounts just not entered or entered wrong.



# *Bismarck Police Department*

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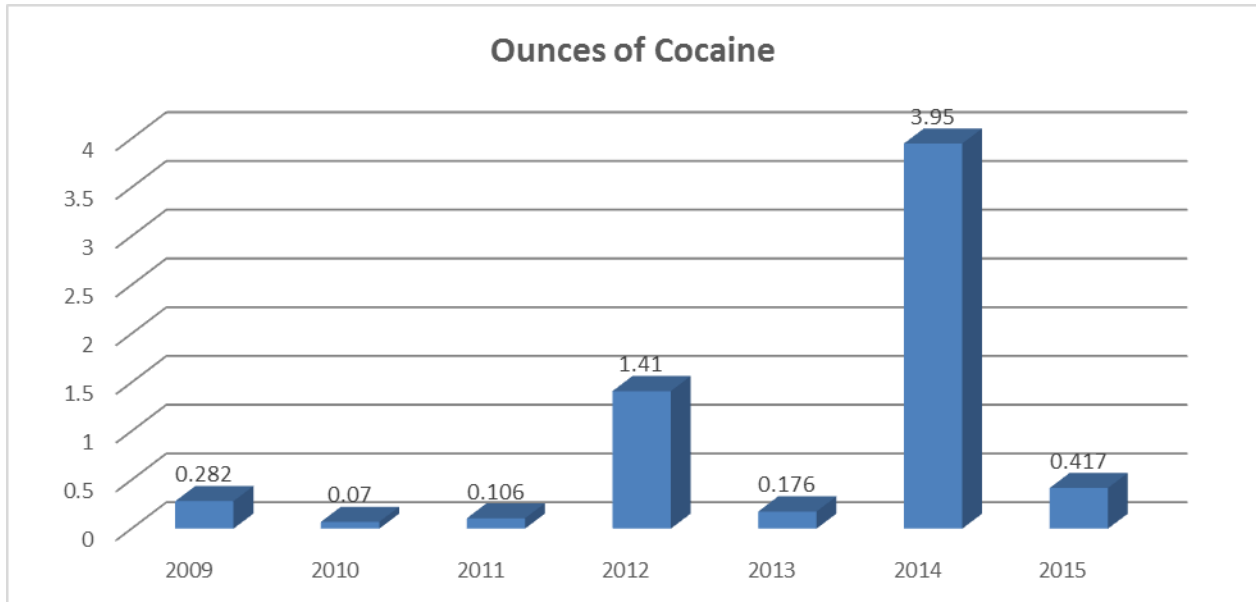
### Criminal Investigations



# ***Bismarck Police Department***

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### **Criminal Investigations**



# ***Bismarck Police Department***

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## **Criminal Investigations**

### **Warrants Section**

The following is a breakdown of activities for the Warrants Division for 2015:

#### **WARRANTS 2015**

On file 12/31/14:	1,246
On file 12/23/15:	1,397
Warrants issued:	2,924
Warrants served/returned:	2,933

#### **WARRANTS 2014**

On file 01/13/14:	789
On file 12/31/14:	1,246
Warrants issued:	2,798
Warrants served/returned:	2,362

\*All numbers are approximate\*

# *Bismarck Police Department*

## *2015 Annual Report*

## West Dakota SWAT Team

### **INTRODUCTION**

The West Dakota SWAT Team is a Tactical Team and Crisis Negotiation Team trained and equipped to handle those high-risk situations that are beyond the scope of that which can be safely handled by the standard patrol response. These situations include barricaded subjects, hostage situations, and the execution of high-risk search warrants.

When fully staffed, West Dakota SWAT Team is comprised of forty-three members, thirty two assigned to the Tactical Team and eleven assigned to the Crisis Negotiation Team. All the members have other primary assignments within their respective departments and serve on the Team on an "on-call" basis. Personnel volunteer for service on the Team and must pass a selection process and maintain an above average level of firearms proficiency and physical fitness as well as successfully fulfilling their duties to remain on the team.

### **ACTIVATIONS**

The West Dakota SWAT Team was activated nine times during 2015. The activations were for the following situations:

- Activation was requested for a high risk search warrant for control substances and paraphernalia. Suspects had a history of dealing in controlled substance and weapons violations to include assaultive behavior.
- Activation was requested for a dignitary protection detail, which involved the request for assistance in a motorcade and security detail while VIP was in Bismarck.
- Activation was requested by the Mandan Police Department for a four man element to standby during the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade.
- Activation was requested by the Bismarck Police Department for a barricaded suspect in an armed terrorizing incident, where the suspect pointed a gun at guests in a Bismarck residence.
- Activation was requested by the Burleigh County Sheriff's Department for a suspect that fled from a traffic stop and broke into a small travel trailer and made threats to blow up the trailer.
- Activation was requested by the Bismarck Police Department for a subject that was believed to be armed, after an upstairs neighbor heard what was believed to be a physical domestic with a threat of serious bodily injury to a female victim.
- Activation was requested the Bismarck Police Department after Officers were doing a welfare check and heard a single gunshot while attempting to make contact at the door of a Bismarck apartment.

# *Bismarck Police Department*

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### West Dakota SWAT Team

- Activation was requested by the Bismarck Police Department for a subject that terrorized a victim with a firearm and barricaded himself in a Bismarck residence.
- Activation was requested by the Bismarck Police Department after it was determined that an armed robbery suspect had been located in a Bismarck apartment.

All missions involving these activations were successfully completed and only one officer received a minor injury from a fall. Activations involving suspects were handled with the appropriate level of force and no injury was caused to any suspect other than exposure to chemical agents (OC or CS) and distractionary devices.

#### **TRAINING**

In-service training was conducted for the team during every month of 2015. The training days in 2015 consisted of 10 hour days.

The content of the in-service training is based on an analysis of the types of incidents the WDSWAT Team is most likely to encounter. This analysis is based on past activations of the team as well as an analysis of potential situations that may occur. As a result, the majority of the in-service training is focused on building entry skills (dynamic and tactical), firearms training and proficiency, and surround and callout tactic. All members were qualified on all firearms used in their assignments and they were also qualified on chemical agents and distraction devices.

Select team members also attended specialized training to focus on specializations within the team. This training included Swat Leadership and Development Courses, Swat Training Liability and Risk Mitigation, and Explosive breaching.

The Team also traveled to Camp Ripley in Minnesota to train in utilizing their urban training simulation city. This allowed us to utilize simunitions while clearing buildings resembling office buildings and schools. The Team also made use of the range at the National Guard base to train on firearm proficiency.

#### **Updates**

The Bismarck Police Department was awarded a sustainability grant which allows purchase of camera viewing equipment and a mobile frequency repeater for rural operations. The grant awarded has also afforded

# *Bismarck Police Department*

## *2015 Annual Report*

### West Dakota SWAT Team

the opportunity to send current team leaders and future team leaders to Swat Management and Leadership Courses.

#### **CURRENT CAPABILITIES**

The West Dakota SWAT Team continues to train for the following:

- 1) Barricaded subject
- 2) Hostage situation
- 3) VIP/Witness Protection and Escort
- 5) High Risk Search Warrants
- 6) Dangerous suspect apprehension
- 7) Civil Disturbance

The WDSWAT Team may also assist in other situations in which officers that possess above average tactical or weapons skills are required

The WDSWAT Team maintains a supply of chemical agents and distraction devices. We have a currently certified instructor in these areas and team members are qualified in the use of the items. The team also has obtained a number of various less-lethal munitions such as "bean-bag" and rubber pellet rounds.

The WDSWAT Team also has special weapons available to include .308 bolt-action rifles equipped for precision marksmen. Specific qualification courses are established for the various weapons along with minimum qualification requirements. WDSWAT Team members are currently qualified on these firearms based on their assignments.

All WDSWAT Team members are required to maintain a qualification average of 90% or more on Special Operations Firearms qualification courses. Qualification courses are fired at different times throughout the year consisting of several advanced level courses. If a member does not qualify with his handgun he is not considered for any team activations until he is qualified. If he is unable to maintain this qualification, this could be reason for dismissal from the team. Courses are conducted in a variety of weather and light conditions and are in full gear, to include gas masks on occasion.



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### West Dakota SWAT Team

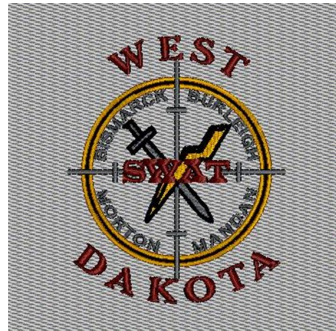
As with firearms training, members of the team are required to pass the team's physical fitness test, which is held once a year. This test consists of strength exercises, an obstacle course and a tool carry shuttle run. During the tests the team members are required to wear their basic uniform to include their tactical vest and helmet. Team members are also required to wear their gas mask in addition to their standard uniform equipment during the shuttle run. All prospective applicants must pass this physical fitness test before advancing to the interview process.

#### **2016 GOALS**

- Register Assistant Team leaders and potential leaders for a SWAT Team Leader development course through NTOA (National Tactical Officers Association)
- Continue monthly training sessions with an emphasis on training for those situations the WDSWAT is most likely to encounter.
- Send the Marksman Team Leader and Assistant Team Leader to an advanced Marksman Management course.
- Register SWAT Team Commander, Assistant SWAT Team Commander and SWAT Team leaders for NTOA SWAT Command and Decision Making Course.
- Train with the Team at Camp Grafton utilizing ranges, MOUT sites and confidence courses.
- Finalize standard operating procedures and update as needed.

WDSWAT personnel changes in 2015 included the resignations from the Tactical team members Lt. Cody Trom, Sgt. Trent Wangen, Lt. Jason Bier and Officer Colt Bohn

Resignation from the Negotiation's Team include: Sgt. Mitch Wardzinski and Sgt. Eric Glaser



# ***Bismarck Police Department***

## ***2015 Annual Report***

### **Bomb Squad**

The Bismarck Police Department Bomb Squad is one of only four (4) FBI Certified Bomb Squad's in the state of North Dakota. The Bomb Squad has a manpower allocation of six (6) members and is under the command of a commander. Four (4) officers are FBI certified bomb technicians and two (2) officers are scheduled to attend Basic Hazardous Technician Training in 2016 or 2017. The primary responsibilities of the Bomb Squad include:

1. Responding to bomb threat emergencies.
2. Coordinating area searches for explosive devices.
3. Examination and disposal of suspicious packages or mail.
4. Recovery and render safe procedures of improvised explosive devices (IED).
5. Responding to incidents involving explosive, chemical, biological, and nuclear threats, and all other weapons of mass destruction.
6. Recovery and disposal of commercial explosives, military ordinances, and dangerous chemicals.
7. Post blast investigation to include evidence collection, processing and analysis; and interviewing victims, witnesses and suspects.
8. Support the West Dakota SWAT team with tactical events utilizing the robots and explosive breaching.

The members of the Bomb Squad have additional responsibilities within the department and are assigned to the patrol, warrants, narcotics task force and investigations sections and serve on the Bomb Squad in addition to their other duties. Each member is on call at all times and is required to respond at a moments notice. As a result of the FBI certification standards, the members of the Bomb Squad are required to complete a minimum of 192 hours of training annually, including a minimum of 40 hours of hands on explosives work. To fulfill these requirements the Bomb Squad members attend an average of 12 hours of in-service training each month, training conferences and ATFE & FBI training courses. Among the benefits of being an FBI certified Bomb Squad is the equipment the FBI issues to each squad, as well as the training that is offered to technicians at no cost to the department. In addition in 2015, the Bomb Squad also continued to show its support for the North Dakota Peace Officers Association Special Operations Committee by attending training meetings in Fargo, Grand Forks and Minot.

In 2015, the FBI raised the Bomb Squad's manpower limit from 5 team members to six. Two (2) officers are slated to attend the Hazardous Devices School, Basic Bomb Technician Course at the Redstone Arsenal, Huntsville, Alabama in 2016 or 2017.

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### **Bomb Squad**

Two (2) officers attended the Center for Domestic Preparedness, Emergency Responder Hazardous Materials Technician for CBRNE Incidents training in Anniston, Alabama. One (1) officer attended the Incident to Terrorist Bombings course in New Mexico.

In 2015, one (1) officer attended the HDS Basic Bomb Technician Course at the Redstone Arsenal, Huntsville, Alabama and is now a FBI certified Hazardous Devices technician.

The Bomb Squad commander attended Bomb Technician Re-cert at Redstone Arsenal, Alabama and the National Bomb Squad Commander's Conference in Huntsville, Alabama. One (1) officer attended Explosive Breeching School in Nevada.

The Bismarck Police Department Bomb Squad not only serves the Bismarck area, but is also the regional response team for any jurisdiction in the southwestern part of the state which includes nineteen (19) counties that are comprised of approximately fifty-seven (57) separate law enforcement agencies. This requires the Bomb Squad to respond to other jurisdictions whenever a request is received. In addition, we provide security to the State Capitol complex several times each year during high profile governmental functions.

In 2015 the members of the Bomb Squad provided training to each new officer hired by Bismarck Police Department, the Citizen Police Academy, as well as to other agencies and civic groups.

In 2015 the Bomb Squad responded to six (6) calls involving explosives or bomb threats both in Bismarck as well as assisting other jurisdictions. We also responded to several SWAT calls assisting them with the robot. The Bomb Squad has an excellent safety record and each of these responses was completed without any injury to the officers or the public.

In 2015, the bomb squad received \$14,000 in Homeland Security Grant money to send two team members to the Hazardous Devices School Basic Course.



# *Bismarck Police Department*

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### K-9 Program

The following is a list of information pertaining to the utilization of the Department's K-9 teams. The department currently has three dual purpose K9 teams certified for Patrol and Narcotic detection. The program was started in January of 1976.

2015 was an interesting and unusual year for the Bismarck Police Department. The Bismarck Police Department added an additional K9 team; Officer Sass got promoted to Sgt; and Sgt Fetzer got promoted to LT. Both of these promotions impacted the number of searches that Sgt/Lt Fetzer and Luna could do as well as Officer/Sgt Sass and Oscar.

The third team that was added was Officer Dan Salander and K9 Bala. Unlike years past, this new K9 team; was trained locally by Sgt Sinclair.

Team 1 is Lieutenant Fetzer and his K-9 partner Luna. Luna is a 6-year-old Dutch Shepherd that was trained in patrol duties and Narcotic Detection. Luna is a European imported Dutch Shepherd specifically bred for police work.

Team 2 is Sgt Sass and his K9, Oscar. Oscar is a 4-year-old Belgian Malinois that was trained in patrol duties and Narcotic Detection. Oscar is a European imported dog specifically bred for police work. Sgt. Sass is assigned to Lt. Ternes' shift.

Team 3 is Officer Salander and his K9, Bala. Bala is 2 year old Belgian Malinois that was trained in patrol duties and Narcotic Detection. Bala is a European imported dog specifically bred for police work. Officer Salander is assigned to Lt Trom's shift.

In order to make this report easier to understand the following definitions will be used:

**Building Search (narcotics):** The use of a detection K-9 to search a structure for narcotic odor.

**Building Search (patrol):** The use of a K-9 team to search a structure for a hidden suspect. These searches may be initiated by alarm, or be discovered as unsecured or with signs of forced entry.

**Demo (patrol and/or narcotics):** The use of a K-9 team in a public demonstration for positive community relations.

**Evidence Detection:** The use of a K-9 team to locate articles of evidence or property that is lost or missing.

**Scouting (patrol):** The use of a K-9 team to search an open area for a hidden suspect or lost individual.

**Tracking:** The use of a K-9 team to track a suspect or lost individual.

**Vehicle search (narcotics/ explosives):** The use of a narcotics detection K-9 team to search a vehicle for narcotic odor.

**Deterrent / Apprehension:** The presence of the K-9 resulted in the suspect giving up and or the situation deescalating because of the presence of the dog.

# ***Bismarck Police Department***

## ***2015 Annual Report***

### **K-9 Program**

#### **Team 1: Lieutenant Chad Fetzer and Luna**

##### **Patrol Activities**

Building Search (patrol) = 2

Demos = 8

Tracking = 2

Evidence = 1

Deterrent / apprehension = 0

Vehicle searches (narcotic) = 44

Building searches (narcotics) = 21

Controlled substance/ paraphernalia finds = 25

November, 2015 – Lt Fetzer assisted on a traffic stop near the intersection of N 9<sup>th</sup> St and Rosser Ave. The driver of the vehicle was arrested for driving under suspension. The officer making the traffic stop believed there may be drug activity within the vehicle, and requested K9 assistance. Prior to the occupants exiting the vehicle, they ensured that all the windows were up, and the doors were closed. There had also been a large pit bull type dog inside of the vehicle. Officers lacked probable cause to search the vehicle. Therefore, K9 Luna was deployed on a free air sniff of this vehicle. Luna indicated on the vehicle by going to final response next to the driver's side door. The vehicle was searched and items were located that led to multiple search warrants in the Bismarck area. Absent certified narcotics detection K9, officers would have been unable to perform a search of this vehicle.



The following are excerpts from a local news release on the incident, with the names redacted:

- A traffic stop in Bismarck leads to federal meth charges for three men.
- Bismarck police pulled over a 33-year-old man in early November.
- Items they found in his car led them to search his home where they found 1100 grams of meth, guns and items used in drug distribution.
- Police found one man at a local hotel with \$20,000 and 900 grams of meth.
- That man told police within the last three months he had brought 35-50 pounds of meth into North Dakota.
- He said that meth is taken to Belcourt.
- Another individual was arrested December 2nd and is being extradited to North Dakota to face charges.
- An ounce of meth sells for around \$1600.
- That means the 35-50 pounds had a street value of \$900,000 to \$1.28 million dollars.

# *Bismarck Police Department*

## *2015 Annual Report*

## K-9 Program

### Team 2: Officer Tim Sass and Oscar

#### Patrol Activities

Building Searches (patrol) = 8

Demos = 5

Deterrence / Apprehension = 3

Evidence = 0

Tracking = 6

Vehicle Searches (Narcotics) = 92

Building Searches (Narcotics) = 30

Controlled Substances and Paraphernalia Finds = 73

Even though Officer Sass got promoted to sergeant he and K9 Oscar still had a busy year which made it difficult to pick a favorite find/use by Oscar so I listed the (my) top 4 below:

4/4/2015—Sgt Sass was contact by the ND HP and asked to come to a traffic accident on I94 near Mandan. The troopers searched the vehicle and found personal use marijuana inside a purse that belonged to the female in the vehicle. Also found were three large empty duffle bags and one large duffle bag that was full of cash. Due to this, Sgt Sass had the bag with money placed approximately 25 yards away from the vehicle and let it sit for approximately 15-20 minutes while they waited for a tow truck. Sgt Sass then removed his K9 Oscar and let him do a free air sniff of the area. Oscar showed positive odor response for narcotic odor coming from the bag with the cash inside. Sgt Sass informed the troopers of this and Sgt Sass seized the money as it was being used as drug money and in the commission of a crime. The end result was that over \$30,000 was seized for the NDHP and it was money that could not be used to purchase more narcotics.

9/16/2015— Sgt Sass was contacted by an agent with the MANTF (Midwest Area Narcotics Task Force) and asked to come to Mandan as they were going to be making a traffic stop on a vehicle with the assistance of Mandan PD. They stopped a vehicle that they believed was making a delivery of narcotics. They stated they had stopped the vehicle the night before and seized firearms. A traffic stop was done by Mandan PD and Sgt Sass was approximately two blocks away. The driver stated he did not have any narcotics but denied consent to search the vehicle. Sgt Sass removed K9 Oscar and conducted a free air vehicle sniff. K9 Oscar showed positive odor response for narcotics coming from the vehicle. A search of the vehicle found a ½ pound of meth which was wrapped and being delivered. Sgt Sass also found cash that had been collected and was seized. This was one of the larger meth seizures for Sgt Sass and K9 Oscar.

# *Bismarck Police Department*

## *2015 Annual Report*

### K-9 Program

1/23/2015— Sgt Sass responded with officers to a local hotel (Hotel #1) for a male who was wanted on a domestic violence protection order. Earlier in the day, officers went to another local hotel (Hotel #2) to make contact and arrest the suspect. The suspect climbed out of the second story window and as other officers saw him climbing out he ran away and escaped on foot. He was not located. A tip was received that night that the man who fled from officers during the day was now hiding at Hotel #1. Sgt Sass went with officers and based on a physical description, and other items, were able to get a positive identification from the staff that the suspect was there and what room he was staying in.

Sgt Sass and K9 Oscar took a position of cover on the outside of the building around the corner from where the suspect's room was. Sgt Sass had Oscar out because the suspect had felony level violation, was known to flee and already fled and disregarded officers orders earlier. As officers knocked on the hotel room door, Sgt Sass noticed a window on the second floor begin to open. A male matching the suspect's description removed the screen and climbed out the window. He then began to lower himself down and as he was about to drop to the ground Sgt Sass came into view and identified himself and advised him to get on the ground and put his hands out. Sgt Sass told the suspect that if he runs, the K9 was going to be released. The suspect saw Sgt Sass and K9 Oscar approach the window. As Sgt Sass waited for him to drop to the ground, the suspect climbed back into his hotel room. After getting a warrant, officers entered the room and took him into custody. The suspect stated the only reason he didn't fight and run was because the K9 was present.



# *Bismarck Police Department*

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### K-9 Program

July 15, 2015 - Sgt Sass responded to the east side of Bismarck to assist Burleigh County Deputies in locating a suspect who had fled in a vehicle and then fled on foot into a RV camper park. The suspect was known by both the deputies and by Bismarck PD as someone who likes to fight and is known to carry weapons. K9 Oscar began a track for the suspect from his vehicle. Sgt Sass tracked him through the trailer park and to a specific trailer. A male, who was not our suspect, opened the door and identified himself as the owner of the trailer. He exited the trailer and confirmed with deputies that our suspect was hiding inside of the trailer but did not know if he had any weapons. Sgt Sass again gave verbal commands for the suspect to come out or the K9 would be deployed. Oscar searched the trailer and showed an alert in the bedroom under the bed specifically. Sgt Sass gave commands again for the suspect to come out or the dog would be sent in and he will be bit. Sgt Sass again received no answer or reply. Sgt Sass pulled the mattress off the bed and there was a wooden plank separating the mattress and the floor. Sgt Sass again ordered the suspect to come out from under the wooden plank or it would be lifted and the K9 will bite him. After several attempts Sgt Sass again heard no response. Sgt Sass then lifted the wooden plank and saw the suspect. At that time, K9 Oscar was also released and went in to apprehend the suspect. K9 Oscar apprehended the suspect with a bite on his foot/leg.

In 2015 Sgt Sass and K9 Oscar also received the award for Top Dog Overall in a K9 Competition through Midwest Canine Alternatives

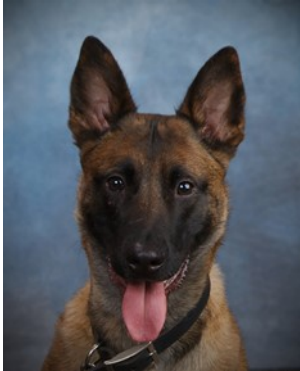


K-9 Oscar

# *Bismarck Police Department*

## *2015 Annual Report*

### K-9 Program



#### Team 3: Officer Dan Salander and Bala

##### Patrol Activities

Building Searches (patrol) = 2  
Demos = 2  
Deterrence / Apprehension = 0  
Evidence = 1  
Tracking = 7  
Vehicle Searches (Narcotics) = 47  
Building Searches (Narcotics) = 16  
Controlled Substances and Paraphernalia Finds = 10

As stated above Officer Salander and K9 Bala were added to the Bismarck Police Department this year. K9 Bala was selected and purchased in February and then trained by Sgt Sinclair until mid- March then she was assigned to Officer Salander. Officer Salander and K9 Bala then completed training with Sgt Sinclair until May when they were certified by MCA in patrol and narcotic detection where they were the Top Rookie team.

10-28-15—Officer Salander was called to help the North Dakota Highway Patrol with a free air sniff on a traffic stop on the Interstate. K9 Bala gave a positive alert and almost 2 lbs. of marijuana was found.

9/30/2015—Officer Welk requested a K9 sniff on a vehicle he was out with. K9 Bala gave indication of narcotics being present and a search of the vehicle was done. Inside the vehicle several items were located to include meth, marijuana, syringe, paraphernalia, scale, and cash. Several totes in the back were gone through that contained stolen items from a recent burglary at Plato's Closet. Info from the suspect revealed the ID of the person responsible for the burglary.

While on the stop, Officer Salander noticed a vehicle that detectives wanted stopped. Officer Salander stopped it and called detectives. While detectives were dealing with the subjects, K9 Bala was used to do a free air sniff and gave positive indication of narcotic odor which led to having reason to search the vehicle. Detectives followed up with an interview and recovered stolen motorcycles and other stolen property.

# ***Bismarck Police Department***

## ***2015 Annual Report***

### **K-9 Program**

The following agencies requested the assistance of the department K-9 teams:

Metro Area Drug Task Force (18 uses)  
Burleigh County Sheriff's Department (19 uses)  
North Dakota Highway Patrol (5 uses)  
Mandan PD (1 use)  
Morton County Sheriff's Department (1 use)  
Parole and Probation (5 uses)  
Others (DEA, TSA, Lincoln PD)

# ***Bismarck Police Department***

## ***2015 Annual Report***

## **Administrative Services**

### **To the Citizens of Bismarck:**

The Bismarck Police Department has the responsibility to provide quality law enforcement services to the citizens of the City of Bismarck and its visitors. We are tasked with meeting the public safety needs of a growing community and responding to a relatively high volume of calls for service. Our department routinely makes arrests, enforces traffic laws, mediates conflict, and in doing so, participates in confrontational and emotionally charged situations.

During the course of the year we receive complaints from citizens regarding our employees and their actions. We take these complaints seriously and make a point to investigate them thoroughly. When we are wrong, we admit it, and we take measures to improve our ability to provide quality service to our community. Additionally, our supervisory staff is required to report any perceived wrongdoing on the part of employees of the department. In this fashion, no allegation will be overlooked with or without a citizen complaint. Such measures include policy or procedure changes, employee training or re-training, and when appropriate, employee discipline.

The following is a summary of Internal Affairs investigations in 2015 in comparison to 2014, as well as any disciplinary actions taken as a result of the investigations conducted during 2015.

### **ANNUAL REPORT FROM The Office of Administrative Services**

#### **2015 Summary:**

According to Internal Affairs Investigation Statistics, during 2015 there were six cases investigated. Of the six cases, three were externally generated by citizen complaints and two were internally generated. The sixth complaint was filed with a state agency which required a response by the department. A total of nine department employees (seven officers and two civilian employees) were identified in the six investigations. All Internal Affairs investigations for incidents reported in 2015 were concluded at the writing of this report.

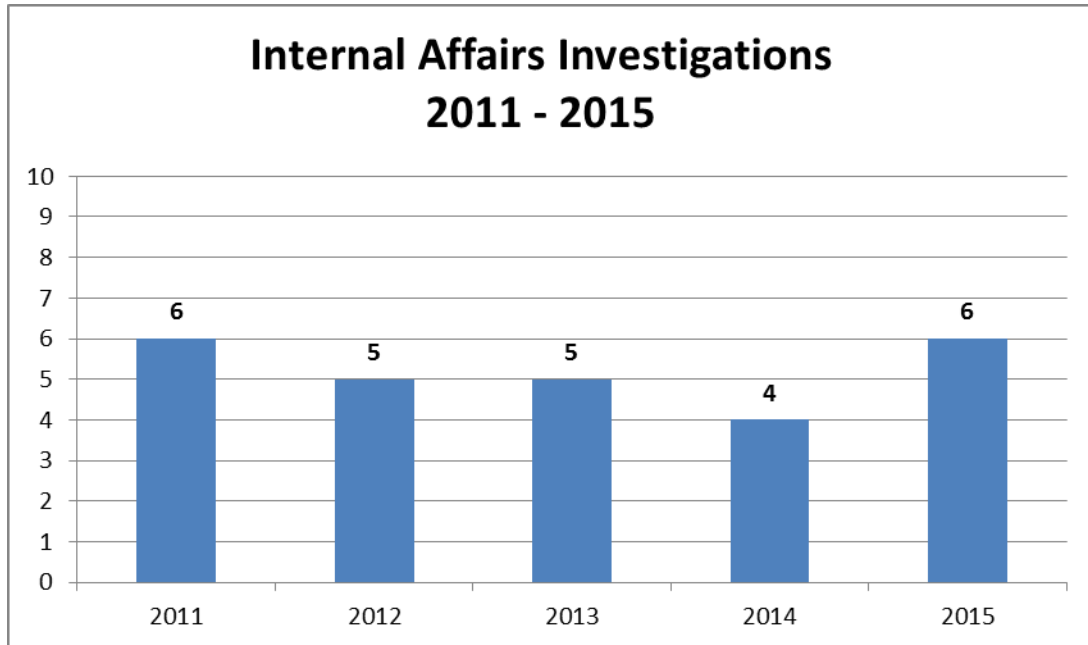
In 2015, the total number of Internal Investigations increased by two from four in 2014 to six in 2015. The previous five years indicate a relatively low and stable number of Internal Affairs investigations conducted.

The chart on the next page provides a comparison between 2015 and the previous four calendar years.

# *Bismarck Police Department*

## *2015 Annual Report*

### Administrative Services



#### **2015 Case Dispositions**

Sustained:	2
Exonerated:	4
Not Sustained:	0

#### **Case Dispositions by Percentage**-factored by the total of all case dispositions per number of complaints – six:

Sustained:	33.35 %
Exonerated:	66.65 %
Not Sustained:	0 %

Sustained complaints increased by one, as we had two in 2015 compared to one in 2014. Exonerated complaints increased by two with four in 2015 compared to two in 2014.

A case disposition of “Not Sustained” decreased by one from 2014 and no case ended with that disposition in 2015.

# ***Bismarck Police Department***

## ***2015 Annual Report***

### **Administrative Services**

Disciplinary actions as a result of the 2015 complaints resulted in:

- One letter of reprimand from the Chief of Police
- One letter of reprimand from the Deputy Chief of Field Services

This information will be posted on the BPD website for public and employee view as per policy and CALEA Standard 52.1.5. Please see Lt. Dwight Offerman for more specific information pertaining to individual cases.

# *Bismarck Police Department*

## *2015 Annual Report*

### Police Youth Bureau

The Bismarck Police Youth Bureau has served the community's youth, families and law enforcement for 40 years with the goal of helping our youth avoid behavior that brings them in contact with the juvenile justice system. PYB is one of the nation's longest running youth programs dealing with juveniles and law enforcement issues. A director, who is a police lieutenant, six youth workers, six school resource officers and an office assistant II currently staff PYB. We went from four school resource officers in 2013 to six in 2014 due to a COPS Grant and collaboration with our local private and public schools.

PYB focuses on **prevention**, **education** and **diversion** to accomplish our goal. **Prevention** is accomplished through activity based interventions, which are mixed with short-term counseling efforts from the staff. These activities allow for role modeling and positive relationships. Area youth were provided the opportunity to interact with PYB and police officers in an informal, fun environment during the 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Cops 'n Kids Fishing Derby, Teen Tour, Red Ribbon Carnival, Teen Maze, and one-on-one mentoring for at-risk youth..

The school resource officers coordinate with schools to help deter criminal activity in and around the schools. The goal of the officers and the schools is to provide students with a safe learning environment so students can focus on their studies rather than worrying about being the victim of crime. This program has proven to be very effective, as we have had a trend of decreasing crime related to youth.

**Education** involves ongoing training and presentations in the schools, as well as to youth and adults in the community. PYB conducted 290 presentations. While most of their presentations are to students in the schools, they also present on a variety of topics to the general public. PYB and the school resource officers also presented at the Citizen's Police Academy.

Two of the six youth workers are focused on education through evidence-based interventions. This requires the instructors to have special skills and education. The youth that are referred to the program are usually alleged delinquents but the classes can also be used to prevent destructive behavior for non-cited behavior as well. The classes have gone well, with excellent feedback from both the kids and professionals in the community. Part of the program has been made possible by grant funding from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

**Diversion** is a formal process that "diverts" juveniles out of the Juvenile Court system into an informal setting that is administered by PYB. These youth are not adjudicated and have the opportunity of avoiding

# *Bismarck Police Department*

## *2015 Annual Report*

### Police Youth Bureau

this process by their involvement at PYB. Juveniles who have committed felony offenses or are ongoing repetitive offenders, are not eligible for diversion. During diversion, PYB works with the juvenile and the family and makes referrals for additional services as necessary. The goal is to hold the juvenile accountable for the offense and to prevent recidivism.

In 2015, there were a total of 1,451 juvenile citations issued. The total citations represent a 19% increase over those issued in 2014; which is a 4% decrease from the five-year average.

In 2015, youth workers dealt with 445 crisis calls. Early intervention in these crisis situations is an important function provided by PYB, as it helps to keep the situations from escalating into a more serious incident. It also helps free up officers to return to other duties.

To aid in being more effective, PYB has started a “referral” program. This is used for low level, non-violent; first, second, or third offenders that don’t need to be cited and “officially” referred to the juvenile justice system. Since the program started late in the year, we have had 52 youth enter the referral program. Instead of being referred to court, they are referred to the Youth Bureau by an officer. The intentions are to work more one-on-one with youth without the stigma of having a “record” in juvenile court. They work on cognitive restructuring to prevent future unacceptable behaviors. There have been many articles published by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention that promote the policies and efforts we have put into place

OFFENSE	COUNT	F	M
Minor in Possession	122	57	65
Runaway	192	129	63
Shoplifting	92	43	49
Curfew	48	21	27
Unruly	119	44	75
Disorderly Conduct	145	60	85
Theft of Property/Deception	48	25	23
Assault	95	37	58
Possession of Drug Paraphernalia	99	34	65

OFFENSE	COUNT	F	M
Criminal Mischief	37	10	27
False Information	9	6	3
Possession of Marijuana	103	32	71
Criminal Trespass	11	3	8
Truancy	86	30	56
Driving Under Suspension	17	11	6
Burglary	3	3	0
Ingestion/Consumption of Marijuana	44	23	21
Fleeing from Officer On Foot	6	2	4



# *Bismarck Police Department*

## *2015 Annual Report*

### Police Youth Bureau

OFFENSE	COUNT	F	M
Poss. Of Stolen Property	3	2	1
Possession of other drug	7	1	6
Other Criminal Offense	24	5	19
Unauthorized Use of MV	10	5	5
Breaking into Motor Vehicles	0	0	0
DUI	6	4	2
No Liability Insurance	2	0	2
Harassment	1	0	1
Violated Driver's License Restrictions	1	0	1
Vandalism	3	1	2
Terrorizing	11	1	10
Resisting Arrest	1	0	1
Fireworks	0	0	0
Leaving Scene of Accident	1	0	1
Bomb Offense	0	0	0
Violated Driver's Permit	4	3	1
Sniffing Inhalants/Huffing	11	11	0
Trespassing	6	0	6
Sexual Assault/GSI	7	0	7
Reckless Driving	9	4	5
Smoking/Tobacco Violation	14	2	12
Disobedience of Judicial Order	6	2	2
Deliver of Controlled Drug	8	0	8
Forgery	0	0	0
Throwing Missiles	0	0	0
Fleeing in Motor Vehicle	3	0	3
No Driver's License	0	0	0

OFFENSE	COUNT	F	M
Reckless Endangerment	2	1	1
Carrying Concealed Weapon	1	1	0
Hindering Law Enforcement	1	1	0
Open Container	0	0	0
Weapons Offense	2	0	0
Poss. Of Imitation Drug	0	0	0
Disturbance of Public School	0	0	0
Breaking and Entering	0	0	0
Escape	0	0	0
Criminal Conspiracy	0	0	0
Other Traffic Offense	21	5	16
Theft from CC/ATM	0	0	0
Theft of Services	0	0	0
Menacing	2	2	0
Other Petty Theft	0	0	0
Poss. Of Meth Paraphernalia	0	0	0
Fraud	0	0	0
Auto Theft	0	0	0
Minor in Liquor Establish.	0	0	0
Attempted Forcible Entry	0	0	0
Child Abuse	0	0	0
Indecent Exposure	0	0	0
Window Peeping	0	0	0
Criminal Attempt	0	0	0
Indecent Conduct	0	0	0
Poss,. Of Meth	4	3	1
Receiving Stolen Property	0	0	0
Littering	0	0	0

# ***Bismarck Police Department***

## ***2015 Annual Report***

### **Police Youth Bureau**

OFFENSE	COUNT	F	M
Misrepresentation of Age	0	0	0
No Helmet	0	0	0
Robbery	0	0	0
False Alarm	4	0	4
TOTAL CITATIONS 2015	1451	624	827

# ***Bismarck Police Department***

## ***2015 Annual Report***

## **Police Youth Bureau**

### **COMMUNITY SERVICE/PYB WORK CREW HOURS**

Community Service Hours	90
PYB Work Crew Hours	138

### **YOUTH WORKER PRESENTATIONS**

School Presentations	290
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### **SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER PRESENTATIONS**

School Presentations	77
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### **CITATIONS ISSUED BY SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS**

Juvenile citations issued by SRO's	375
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### **OUT-REACH PROGRAMS**

Cops 'N Kids Fishing Derby	49
Teen Tour	16

### **SRO REFERRALS**

SRO Referrals	50
SRO Referrals that became cites	7

### **EVIDENCE-BASED CLASSES**

120 student referrals	
7 programs facilitated	

### **JUVENILE CITATIONS BY AGENCY**

Bismarck Police Department	1239
Burleigh County Sheriff's Dept	178
Lincoln Police Department	26
Highway Patrol/MCSD/MPD	8

# *Bismarck Police Department*

## *2015 Annual Report*

### Police Youth Bureau

Offense	2014	2015	Percentage Increase/Decrease
Assault	45	95	111.11%
Attempted Forcible Entry	0	0	0.00%
Auto Theft	0	0	0.00%
Bomb Offense	0	0	0.00%
Breaking and Entering	0	0	0.00%
Breaking into a MV	1	0	-100.00%
Burglary	5	3	-40.00%
Carrying Concealed Weapon	3	1	0.00%
Child Abuse	0	0	100.00%
Criminal Attempt	0	0	0.00%
Criminal Conspiracy	8	0	-100.00%
Criminal Mischief	39	37	-5.13%
Criminal Trespass	4	11	175.00%
Curfew	49	48	-2.04%
Delivery of Controlled Drug	9	8	-11.11%
Discharging Firearm in City	0	0	0.00%
Disobedience of a Judicial Order	2	6	200.00%
Disorderly Conduct	80	145	81.25%
Disturbance of a Public School	1	0	-100.00%
Driving Under Suspension	15	17	13.33%
DUI	10	6	-40.00%
Escape	0	0	0.00%
False Alarm	0	0	0.00%
False Information	6	9	50.00%
Fireworks	4	0	-100.00%
Fleeing from Officer	5	9	80.00%
Forgery	0	0	0.00%
Fraud	0	0	0.00%
Harassment	6	1	-83.33%
Hindering Law Enforcement	3	1	-66.67%
Indecent Conduct	0	0	0.00%
Indecent Exposure	0	0	0.00%
Ingestion/Consumption of Marijuana	75	44	-41.33%
Leaving the Scene of an Accident	0	1	100.00%
Littering	1	0	100.00%
Menacing	1	2	100.00%

# *Bismarck Police Department*

## *2015 Annual Report*

### Police Youth Bureau

Offense	2014	2015	Percentage Increase/Decrease
Minor in Liquor Establishment	1	0	-100.00%
Minor in Possession/Consumption	124	122	-1.61%
Misrepresentation of Age	0	0	400.00%
No Driver's License	2	0	0.00%
No Helmet	0	0	100.00%
No Liability Insurance	17	2	-88.24%
Open Container in Vehicle	0	0	0.00%
Other Criminal Offense	18	24	33.33%
Other Petty Theft	0	0	0.00%
Other Traffic Offense	15	21	40.00%
Poss. of Drug Paraphernalia	100	99	-1.00%
Poss. Of Imitation Drug	0	0	0.00%
Poss. of Meth	0	4	0.00%
Poss. of Meth Paraphernalia	1	0	-100.00%
Possession of Marijuana	90	103	14.44%
Possession of Other Drug	7	7	0.00%
Possession of Stolen Property	4	3	-25.00%
Receiving Stolen Property	0	0	100.00%
Reckless Driving	5	9	80.00%
Reckless Endangerment	6	2	600.00%
Resisting Arrest	3	1	-66.67%
Robbery	1	0	100.00%
Runaway	139	192	38.13%
Sex Offense	0	0	0.00%
Sexual Assault/GSI	5	7	40.00%
Shoplifting	85	92	8.24%
Smoking/Tobacco Violation	2	14	600.00%
Sniffing Inhalants	8	11	37.50%
Terrorizing	4	11	175.00%
Theft from CC/ATM	0	0	0.00%
Theft of Property/Deception	59	54	-8.47%
Theft of Services	0	0	0.00%
Throwing Missiles	0	0	0.00%
Trespassing	3	6	100.00%
Truancy	39	86	120.51%
Unauthorized Use of MV	2	10	400.00%

# *Bismarck Police Department*

## *2015 Annual Report*

### Police Youth Bureau

Offense	2014	2015	Percentage Increase/Decrease
Unruly	96	119	23.96%
Vandalism	0	3	0.00%
Violation of Driver's License Restrictions	8	1	-87.50%
Violation of Driver's Permit	0	4	0.00%
Window Peeping	1	0	100.00%
Weapons Offense	2	2	0.00%
<b>TOTAL CITATIONS</b>	<b>1219</b>	<b>1451</b>	<b>19.03%</b>

#### Sampling of Juvenile Trends 2014

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	5 Yr. Avg.	2015	2014 v 2015	2015 v 5 Yr. Avg.
Total Citations	1877	1646	1534	1256	1219	1506.4	1451	19%	-4%
MIP/MIC	268	212	195	146	124	189	122	-2%	-35%
Possession of Marijuana	64	76	57	72	90	71.8	103	14%	43%
Possession of Drug Paraphernalia	89	100	94	62	100	89	99	-1%	11%
Delivery/Possession of Other Drugs	22	17	22	6	7	14.8	19	171%	28%
Smoking	13	13	14	8	2	10	14	600%	40%
Driving Under the Influence	9	6	12	6	10	8.6	6	-40%	-30%
Assault	86	64	86	58	45	67.8	95	111%	40%
Disorderly Conduct	151	148	123	103	80	121	145	81%	20%
Terrorizing	9	7	5	7	4	6.4	11	175%	72%
Carrying a Concealed Weapon	4	3	0	0	3	2	1	-100%	-50%
Harassment	7	3	3	50	6	13.8	1	-83%	-93%
Runaway	189	190	178	135	139	166.2	192	38%	16%
Unruly	200	179	166	140	96	156.2	119	24%	-24%
Curfew	134	113	70	35	49	80.2	48	-2%	-40%
Truancy	44	41	54	38	39	43.2	86	121%	99%
Shoplifting	190	149	129	82	85	127	92	8%	-28%
Theft of Property	49	46	40	27	59	44.2	48	-19%	9%
Vandalism/Criminal Mischief	48	34	46	34	39	40.2	40	3%	0%
Possession of Stolen Property	26	8	8	7	4	10.6	3	-25%	-72%
Trespassing	42	25	38	28	7	28	17	143%	-39%
Burglary	15	7	2	5	5	6.8	3	-40%	-56%

# *Bismarck Police Department*

## *2015 Annual Report*

### Crime Prevention Section

There are four officers assigned to The Bismarck Police Department's Crime Prevention section. All give presentations to the community on various crime prevention topics, such as bank robbery, shoplifting and personal protection; give tours of the building; and conduct security surveys of homes and businesses.

Officer Pat Renz is the coordinator of the Bike Patrol program, is the lead Intoxilyzer operator, works with the reports from the online-reporting system, coordinates the false alarm billing and false alarm reduction efforts, and is the primary Neighborhood Crime Watch officer.

Officer Lynn Wanner and Officer Clint Fuller are working with the business community, doing the weekly landlord reports, working with residents and neighborhood groups, and doing public presentations, security surveys and tours.

The supervisor is Sgt. Mark Buschena. In addition to his other duties, Mark is the Bismarck Area Crime Stopper Coordinator, Volunteer Program Coordinator, manages the Landlord Notification Program, and is the department's Public Information Officer.

During 2015 we had direct contact with 14,668 people through presentations, tours and fingerprinting. Not included in this total are individuals who call or stop in with specific questions or requests.

The following is a break down of the 3 major categories:

**PRESENTATIONS:** We gave 237 presentations in 2015. The number of people reached by these presentations was 13,988. The presentations were on a variety of law enforcement topics, with five being the most requested. These were: Child Passenger Safety/Distracted Driving (71), Stranger Safety/911 (37), Personal Protection (18), Officer Friendly (18) and Work Place Violence/Robbery (18). Some of the other presentations we offer are listed at <http://www.bismarck.org/index.aspx?NID=398>. To request a speaker for your next event call the Crime Prevention section at 223-1212.

**TOURS:** In 2015, we gave 17 tours to 125 children and 142 adults, for a total of 267 people taken through the department. We gave tours to Anne Carlsen School, University of Mary, Cub Scouts and many others.

**FINGERPRINTING:** We fingerprinted 173 adults, primarily court ordered. We also fingerprinted and/or distributed child ID kits to 72 children at various events. We registered 15 sex offenders.

Other programs in which the section had involvement included:

**CAR SEAT CHECKUPS:** Section personnel were involved with community car seat checkups and inspections. Last year we had contact with 93 adults and 56 children at these events. The schedule for these events is here: [http://bismansafetycouncil.com/car\\_seat\\_checkups](http://bismansafetycouncil.com/car_seat_checkups)

# *Bismarck Police Department*

## *2015 Annual Report*

### Crime Prevention Section

**VOLUNTEER PROGRAM:** The past year, volunteers were used at the Bismarck Animal Impound Facility and in Records/Reception. In 2015 volunteers worked 749.25 hours at a cost savings of \$17,922.06. Since we began the program in 2006, volunteers have worked 13,530.00 hours, at a cost savings of \$323,637.60. A list of current volunteer openings and applications are available at [www.bismarck.org/policevolunteer](http://www.bismarck.org/policevolunteer).

**DAKOTA MEDIA ACCESS:** A 2015 Department goal was to continue our collaboration with Dakota Media Access. We finished three videos: [What is Suspicious? Bullying Prevention](#) and [Personal Safety for Women](#). Other video presentations include [Rental Housing Scams](#), [Summer Safety](#), [Senior Citizen Crime Prevention](#), [Bicycle Safety](#), [Preventing Bike Theft](#), [Preventing Sexual Assault](#), [Safety of Children In and Around Cars](#) and [Child Restraints](#). A list of all the presentations is available at <http://www.bismarck.org/index.aspx?NID=1311>.

**FACEBOOK:** Our section is responsible for the maintenance of the department's Facebook page. We are able to post crime prevention tips, news releases, wanted individuals and requests asking the public's help in identifying and locating suspects and missing people. In 2015 we posted 54 requests asking the public for help to identify suspects, locate runaways and missing individuals, and locate stolen property. Of these, 25 led to identification and/or apprehension of the suspect. Follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/bismarckpolice?fref=nf>



**TWITTER:** We continued to expand our social media outreach by launching our Twitter account on October 2nd, 2015. Since then, our Tweets have been seen over 51,000 times.

We look forward to continuing to interact with our community by providing up to date information and emergency announcements related to the Police Department. Follow us on [www.twitter.com/BismarckPolice](http://www.twitter.com/BismarckPolice).

**PERISCOPE:** We have begun to experiment with another social media tool, Periscope, which allows us to broadcast live to followers on the web via their smart phones or computers. We broadcast live the Chief's news conference following an officer involved shooting and also used this to broadcast live updates during the BSC lockdown.



# *Bismarck Police Department*

## *2015 Annual Report*

### Crime Prevention Section

**MEDIA:** Our section worked closely with the media. We sent out news releases on motorcycle safety, tournament traffic, rummage sale signs, fireworks prohibited, Super Bowl drinking and driving, endangered Bismarck woman, razor blade found in shopping cart handle, USA Today wrong about Bismarck crime stats, new squad cars, homicide suspect sought and many others.

**PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER:** Sgt. Buschena is the Public Information Officer for the department. He is responsible for conducting the daily news briefing with the news media, fielding questions from the media that arise during the day and responding to media inquiries concerning story ideas and on-air interviews.

**ALARMS:** The annual alarm report is attached. In 2011 there were 952 false alarms. In 2012 there were 797 false alarms. In 2013 there were 877 false alarms. In 2014 there were 801 false alarms. In 2015 there were 728 false alarms.

**ON-LINE REPORTING SYSTEM:** Section personnel check the reports submitted on-line every day, and will follow up with the reporting party via email or telephone if additional information is needed. The reports are then routed through normal channels. In 2015 there were 328 reports submitted online. To file a report with the Bismarck Police Department go to <http://www.bismarck.org/index.aspx?nid=364>.

**LEAD INTOXILYZER OPERATOR:** Officer Renz is the lead Intoxilyzer operator for the department. His duties include maintaining and running monthly tests on the Intoxilyzer 8000, doing monthly calibrations of the on-site screening devices (Alco Sensor FST), and testifying in court when required.

**CITIZEN POLICE ACADEMY:** Officer Renz is the coordinator. The most recent Citizen Police Academy was held September 3<sup>rd</sup> through November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2015. The purpose of the citizen police academy is to allow the public to experience the many aspects of police work first hand. The academy consists of a series of classes taught by members of the Bismarck Police Department. In addition, students receive hands on training as well. The Bismarck Police Department hopes that by offering a Citizen Police Academy the participants will better understand the operational responsibilities that all members of the Police Department undertake on a daily basis. The Academy is eleven weeks long. Classes are scheduled to run for two and half hours each night. The application for the next Citizen Police Academy is available at <http://www.bismarck.org/DocumentCenter/View/2812>.

# *Bismarck Police Department*

## *2015 Annual Report*

### Crime Prevention Section

**BISMARCK AREA CRIME STOPPERS:** We continue to serve as the coordinator for the program. The annual report for that program is attached. To anonymously report information about criminal activity call Crime Stoppers at 224-TIPS (224-8477). Or report online: <http://www.bismarcknd.gov/forms.aspx?FID=175> . You may be eligible for a cash reward if your information leads to an arrest.

**BISMARCK-MANDAN SAFETY COUNCIL:** We represent the Department at their monthly meetings. We are also involved with the planning and conducting of their annual bike rodeo and helmet distribution. Officer Fuller is the current President.

**SECURITY SURVEYS:** Upon request, a specially trained officer will come to your home or business and make an assessment of your physical security. The officer will then make recommendations, if needed, on areas that can be improved to lower your risk of being a crime victim. Areas addressed include doors, locks, windows, lighting, fences, landscaping, alarms and more, depending on whether the location is residential or commercial. In 2015 we conducted four security surveys.

**ADOPT-A-COP:** We coordinated the Adopt-A-Cop program through the end of the 2015 school year. For the 2014-2015 year, Officer Fuller was at Pioneer, Officer Helgeson was at Centennial, Sergeant Sass and Officer Vargas were at Liberty, Officer Girodat was at Murphy, Officer Lahr was at Myhre, Officer Otterness was at Northridge and Solheim, Officer Wanner was at Saxvik, and Officer Berger was at Will Moore.

The program involves patrol officers spending time at their schools, developing positive relationships with the children, acting as role models and liaisons between the school administration and the Police Department. The coordination of the Adopt-A-Cop program has now been transferred to the Police Youth Bureau beginning with the start of the 2015-2016 school year.

**SAFE RENTAL HOUSING PROGRAM:** We continue to notify landlords of police responses to property they manage. The object is to reduce crime at apartment complexes, mobile home parks, and storage units, and reduce the amount of time police spend responding to these calls. We currently run 134 of these weekly reports, dictate letters and mail/fax them to the respective property managers to notify them of police response to burglaries, loud parties or other disturbances of which they may not otherwise be aware. To enroll in the program go to <http://www.bismarck.org/DocumentCenter/Home/View/2554>.

# *Bismarck Police Department*

## *2015 Annual Report*

### Crime Prevention Section

There were a number of other projects and activities we were involved in during the year, such as Battle of the Badges Blood Drive, city auction, Safety Village, Homeless Point in Time Survey and Teen Maze. There are numerous boards and committees on which we serve. We represent the department on the Crime Stoppers Board, Bismarck-Mandan Safety Council, West Central Vulnerable Adult Coalition, Missouri Valley Homeless Coalition, PULSE, and Chaplain's Committee.

#### 2015 ALARM REPORT

	Customer Error	Crime/Prog	Unknown	Equip	Misc	Monthly Total
January	33	0	22	0	1	56
February	24	0	32	1	1	58
March	25	0	26	3	0	54
April	24	2	22	2	0	50
May	23	1	35	5	1	65
June	29	1	37	2	2	71
July	32	1	36	0	0	69
August	19	0	25	0	0	44
September	27	0	24	4	2	57
October	19	0	51	5	3	78
November	21	0	32	2	2	57
December	34	0	34	6	0	74
Totals	310	5	376	30	12	733
% of Total	42.30%	0.70%	51.30%	4.10%	1.60%	100.00%

# *Bismarck Police Department*

## *2015 Annual Report*

### Crime Prevention Section

BISMARCK AREA CRIME STOPPERS

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2015

(Twenty-Eight Year of Operation)

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Number of code numbers:	186
Number of phone calls received:	209
Number of cases solved:	3
Number of defendants tried/convicted:	0/0
Number of rewards paid/declined:	0/0
Amount of rewards paid:	\$0
Amount of stolen property recovered:	\$1,500



# *Bismarck Police Department*

## *2015 Annual Report*

## Records and Reception

### **Records and Reception**

The Bismarck Police Department Records and Reception section was staffed by eight Office Assistants. A job classification and compensation study completed at the City of Bismarck's request was completed and re-named the positions to Records Technicians. The Records and Reception sections started the year under the direct supervision of Christie Kaylor, Principal Office Assistant and went under the direct supervision of Tara Axtman, Records Supervisor (new classification) in September. Records and Reception both play a part in receiving requests, copying, and distributing copies of reports. Records and Reception staff are both titled Records Technicians, but they each have functions specific to their section.

### **Reception**

The front desk consists of three receptionists. At the beginning of the year those receptionists were Deb Kenner, Tanika Johnson, and Nancy Vasquez. The year finished with a staff of Deb Kenner, Tanika Johnson, and Kristine Kostuck. The receptionists are the first line of customer service for the Bismarck Police Department. They are the first faces to be seen when a customer comes into the building and they also receive the phone calls that come in to the Police Department. The Receptionists try to assist the citizens as much as they can and direct them to other appropriate departmental personnel when necessary. They assist the public with services such as animal impounds and licensing, vehicle impounds, gaming, taxi, raffle and special permits and other services. They also receive the sex offender paperwork when the offender completes it and turn it over to records to process. In addition, they are also responsible for many other duties such as transcribing the police officer's reports, filing and maintaining files for trespass orders, protection orders, orders prohibiting contact, and restraining orders, as well as other office tasks.

# *Bismarck Police Department*

## *2015 Annual Report*

## Records and Reception

### **Records**

The records section is responsible for the accuracy and retention of Police records. They also determine what information is releasable to the public, courts, other law enforcement agencies and insurance companies. A key duty of the Records staff is maintaining the integrity of the documents by ensuring accurate data entry, easy access to stored documents and maintaining the preservation, retention and destruction of all Police records. The information provided to this section comes from a variety of sources including officer's reports and other departmental documents. These records allow department employees and other governmental agencies access to critical information for investigators, officers, administrators and the public. The records section also receives phone calls with inquiries to the status of a case or if someone has questions about a particular case. The records section completes background checks for gaming, taxi, and door to door permits, liquor licenses, and the public or other agencies. This section also updates the sex offender information when the offender comes in to register. The records section serves as a backup for reception with helping citizens at the window and answering phone calls. The Records staff members started the year as Tara Axtman, DeeAnn Anderson, Marjorie Kimball, Janell Pederson and Clarissa Goldsack. At the end of 2015 the Records staff consisted of DeeAnn Anderson, Robyn Benedict, Laura Germain, Clarissa Goldsack, and Tara White.

# ***Bismarck Police Department***

## ***2015 Annual Report***

## **Evidence and Property**

### **Evidence and Property**

The Evidence and Property Section falls under the Support Services Division of the Department. The section was staffed by two Evidence Technicians. Nick Metzger is one of the Department's Evidence Technicians, and he's certified through the International Association for Property and Evidence (IAPE). The Department's other Evidence Technician is Donna Blauvelt. She was hired in March 2015 to replace Dave Hess, who retired at the end of 2014. Donna brings with her several years of evidence and lab experience having worked for both the Kentucky State Police, and Hamilton County, OH Coroner's Office.

The Evidence Technicians are responsible for the following: receiving, storing, logging, and maintaining proper chain of custody of all property and evidence submitted by Bismarck Police department Officers to the Bismarck Police Department evidence/property storage facilities. They also maintain security, custody and control over all property and evidence seized until a disposition through the criminal justice system has been reached and identified owners established. Thru December 31, 2015, the Bismarck Police Department had a total of 35,902 pieces of evidence/property being stored within our facilities. During 2015, a total of 13,785 items were submitted into the Evidence and Property Section, from 3,779 cases where officers collected, seized, or recovered evidence/property.

The Bismarck Police Department maintains three internal evidence and property storage locations within it's' main headquarters building. In addition, the department maintains an off-site vehicle impound lot, and long term storage facility.

In addition to working with Bismarck Department employees, our Evidence Section works closely with other local partners. For example, they maintain a working relationship with the North Dakota Crime Lab, Metro Area Narcotics Task Force, Bismarck Municipal Court, and the Burleigh County States Attorney's office to name a few.

The integrity and accountability of evidence and property warehoused within the department's facilities is of the utmost importance. Twice each year the Support Services Lieutenant conducts a review of the Evidence Section procedures. In addition, an annual audit of one-hundred percent of all firearms, narcotics, and monies, along with a minimum of 101 randomly selected items of all other evidence/property is conducted by a

# ***Bismarck Police Department***

## ***2015 Annual Report***

### **Evidence and Property**

member of the department who is outside of the Evidence Section's chain-of-command. In addition, the Chief of Police conducts his own yearly inspection of the Evidence/Property personnel, facilities, and practices. The inspections conducted are meant to ensure the Evidence Technicians are conducting their duties in accordance with State law, municipal ordinances, department policies, along with best industry standards.

In addition to their evidence/property facility duties, the Evidence Technicians perform fingerprinting duties for court orders. They also fingerprint, photograph, and obtain DNA samples for those who are required to register as sex offenders.

### **Facility Maintenance**

The Facility Maintenance Section is under the Support Services Division of the Department. The department's maintenance staff is comprised of one Police Maintenance Technician, Jeremy Kjos, and two Building Service workers, Alan Helfrich and Rodney Hill. The section is responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of four Bismarck Police Department Facilities: the headquarters building at 700 S. 9<sup>th</sup> St., the Bismarck Police Animal Impound Facility, the Evidence Storage facility and Impound Lot, and the Police office and garage space located at Fire Station 5.

In addition to their day-to-day function within the department, the Maintenance Section oversaw the installation of a new Chiller unit, which replaced the original unit installed when our current building was constructed in 1979; a new lighting and ceiling project in the Department's booking rooms and Intoxilyzer room; a new roof cap project; and the continuation of the re-landscaping project around the headquarters building that began in 2013



# *Bismarck Police Department*

## *2015 Annual Report*

### Training Section

Reporting to the Deputy Chief of Support Services, the Bismarck Police Department Training Section is overseen by one Lieutenant, and staffed with one Sergeant, one Police Officer, and one Property Equipment Coordinator.

Under the direction of Sergeant Wardzinski, the Training Section has the primary task of coordinating training for department personnel, both sworn officers and civilian staff. In addition to the training function, Sergeant Wardzinski and Officer Miller conduct planning, research and analysis on the effectiveness of equipment, policing methods, techniques and general operating methods and procedures.

The state of North Dakota requires that each sworn officer must receive a minimum of 60 hours of training every three years in order to maintain law enforcement certification. Our department's officers averaged approximately 117 hours training each for 2015 alone. The total number of training hours received by our officers in 2015 was 14,505 hours. Our department's civilian staff averaged approximately 9 hours of training each for 2015. The total number of training hours received by our civilian staff in 2015 was 285 hours. Each year, new training programs are developed and existing programs are updated to meet the comprehensive needs of the department. New training implemented to the department in 2015 included Basic Photography and Basic Affidavit Writing.

Additionally, the department's training program includes basic recruit training, advanced and specialized in-service training, refresher courses, weapon proficiency, weapon certification, and other subject areas designed to broaden the knowledge and capabilities of Department personnel.

In addition to those assigned to the Training Section, the department utilizes the expertise, and knowledge of the Bismarck Police Department staff to assist in the training of personnel. The department has a total of forty-seven North Dakota Police Officer Standards and Training (ND POST) certified instructors. Training is conducted within the Department by our own certified instructors as well as having personnel attend specialized training provided by nationally certified instructors. In 2015, our officers and civilian staff have provided over 4,152 hours of instruction.

The department hired its first Property Equipment Coordinator in 2015 who was tasked with taking over officer and vehicle equipment. Scott Brand is responsible for researching and obtaining all uniforms and equipment for officers in the field. He has also taken over managing the fleet of vehicles the department uses. Included in this is the purchasing of new vehicles as well as keeping up on maintaining our current fleet.

# *Bismarck Police Department*

## *2015 Annual Report*

### Training Section

The department's Training Section was also responsible for the training of twenty-two new recruit officers. Additionally, it was responsible for the provision of promotional training, the coordination of specialized training for Departmental personnel, and for ensuring that all sworn personnel met ND POST, Bismarck Police Department, and CALEA annual in-service training requirements.

### Bismarck Mounted Police

The Bismarck Mounted Police is an auxiliary unit of the Bismarck Police Department that was chartered in 1966. The Mounted Police ride horses in parades, events and ceremonies in which they represent their unit and the Bismarck Police Department. We are routinely requested to participate in a wide variety of events throughout the state of North Dakota. They have a well deserved reputation as skilled riders and performers. To develop and maintain their skills, the Mounted Police normally hold a horsemanship practice session bi-weekly, weather permitting, at various locations in the Bismarck/Mandan area.

In the recent years the demand for the Bismarck Mounted Police services in search and rescue operations has steadily increased. We are training ourselves and our mounts in the equine scent detection. The group plans on keeping up with training.

In the years to come we have the challenge to boost the membership of this extraordinary, unique volunteer organization. With a stronger membership base, we can be a greater resource for search and rescue operations, have a greater opportunity to perform at various events and remain a strong, viable community asset.

Current active membership for 2015 was 11, with three honorary members.

Officers for the 2015 year were: Captain Terri Schonert, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Alen Fitterer, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Barbara Zins-Burrer, Warrant Officer Jeanette Hoffman and Drill Sergeant Nadine Nagowski.

My sincere thanks and appreciation to Chief Dan Donlin and Lt. Steven Scheuer for the Bismarck Police Department's help and support this past year and look forward to years of successful operation sand relations.



# *Bismarck Police Department*

## *2015 Annual Report*

### **Bismarck Law Enforcement Chaplaincy**

The Crisis Care Chaplaincy began in 1979 as the Bismarck Police Chaplaincy with one volunteer chaplain, a local pastor in Bismarck. In time Burleigh County Sheriff's Office sought the services of the chaplaincy and the name was changed to Bismarck Law Enforcement Chaplaincy and additional volunteers joined. Then as services expanded to other agencies another name change became necessary so the name Crisis Care Chaplaincy was chosen, although the legal name remains Bismarck Law Enforcement Chaplaincy.

Since volunteers are the backbone of the chaplaincy, a great deal of emphasis has been placed upon training. Our chaplains are trained in Community Service Chaplaincy which is a certified course of The International Association of Community Service Chaplaincy (TIACSC). Our chaplains are also trained in Critical Incident Stress Management. Training is an ongoing part of our program with monthly staff meetings and training.

Our Mission is "Crisis Intervention through Chaplaincy", and it is three pronged. One is to work side by side with emergency services personnel in their service to the community by providing critical crisis care to victims, survivors, and to the personnel involved. The next prong is to provide direct services to our emergency personnel by building relationships with them in order to provide care in the midst of a career that is known for being a high stress one. This stress can become a negative factor to them personally and to their families as well as to co-workers. Through crisis intervention our chaplains attempt to provide the help that is needed. The third prong is to provide training to our personnel in the management of stress in order to prevent burn-out and PTSD.

At present the Chaplaincy has 11 active volunteer chaplains who serve our agencies as well as provide on call services as needed. The program is administered by a board made up of chaplains, agency heads, and community leaders. Currently there are 3 lead chaplains who oversee the various responsibilities of the volunteer chaplains. Chaplain Sam Saylor is the lead chaplain for the Bismarck Police Department, providing oversight of the CISM program and the training of personnel and chaplains as a certified trainer with TIACSC. Chaplain Greg Carr is the lead chaplain for the Fire Departments and Chaplain Les Wolfram is the lead chaplain for the Sheriff's Department and the Highway Patrol.

In 2015 our chaplains served for 1558 hours and served 4568 people.



# *Bismarck Police Department*

## *2015 Annual Report*

### Fleet Report

In 2015 the Bismarck Police Department fleet consisted of (64) vehicles that are tracked and categorized in the Fleet Maintenance Pro program as Administrative, ATV's, Decommissioned, Detectives, Patrol, Police Youth Bureau, Special Operations, and Traffic. A more detailed breakdown of each category will be addressed later in the report. In May, the process of adding and decommissioning cars began with the arrival of the (7) new Patrol vehicles all of which were AWD (all-wheel drive) Ford Interceptor Utilities. Additionally, the Detective Division added (2) drug forfeiture vehicles to their fleet while Animal Control added a Ford F-250.

The strategic purchasing of AWD vehicles to the Patrol Division for fleet standardization continued for the purpose of tactical and safety enhancement, as well as overall functionality of the fleet. There was also significant technological improvements made again this year with the replacement of all mobile data computers within the marked patrol and traffic fleet; improving the efficiency of the police department data and information sharing processes. One other noteworthy change for 2015 was the addition of full coverage insurance for all marked patrol vehicles, which made a positive impact on the Police Department's fiscal responsibility.

As with 2014, most maintenance was performed by Public Works and Dakota Communications unless it was determined to be warranty repair work. Warranty repair work is generally performed locally at the appropriate dealership for the make of vehicle needing repairs. In the event Public Works could not perform the needed repairs, the work was contracted out to a local authorized repair facility. Other than specialty maintenance and repairs performed by Dakota Communications, billing is centrally processed through the Public Works Fleet Department. Repairs and installation of specialty equipment such as computers, emergency equipment, and vehicle striping is performed by other authorized contractors or businesses such as Dakota Communications.

As mentioned above, the Bismarck Police Department fleet is categorized in to eight (8) divisions; **Patrol, Traffic, Detectives, Police Youth Bureau (PYB), Administration, Special Operations, ATV's, and Decommissioned**. The following is a detailed breakdown of each division:

**Patrol:** (19) marked patrol vehicles currently assigned to the Patrol Division.

**Traffic:** (9) vehicles in this division consisting of four marked patrol vehicles, units, two Parking Enforcement vehicles, and three Animal Control vehicles.

**Detectives:** (14) vehicles assigned at the Police Department and (1) assigned at the Metro Area Narcotics Task Force which is leased under contract by the Federal Government.

**Police Youth Bureau (PYB)/School Resource Officer (SRO):** (9) vehicles assigned consisting of two marked and five unmarked SRO vehicles, and two for the Police Youth Bureau.

# *Bismarck Police Department*

## *2015 Annual Report*

### Fleet Report

**Administration:** (5) vehicles assigned to Administration, Crime Prevention, Maintenance, and Training.

**Special Operations:** (5) specialized vehicles allocated to the Special Operations Divisions of the West Dakota SWAT Team, Bomb Squad, and Hostage Negotiation Team.

**ATV's (All Terrain Vehicles):** (2) 2011 Polaris Rangers which were purchased during the 2011 flood and are periodically utilized for special events and specialized park enforcement.

**Decommissioned:** In 2014 there were (8) vehicles decommissioned through the auction process or transferred to Public Works. One vehicle was traded in at local dealership for the purchase of a newer model, four vehicles were sold at Northland Auction, and three of the decommissioned cars were transferred to Public Works. All funds generated from the sale of police vehicles, unless originally purchased from the Drug Asset Forfeiture Fund, goes to the city general fund.

\*Note: The process of replacing vehicles is usually determined by mileage and maintenance costs. Generally, cars with higher mileage tend to produce more maintenance costs over time. According to national fleet data, the mileage and use on police vehicle engines can be twice that of the actual odometer reading due to idling time. For example, a vehicle that has 100,000 odometer miles actually has 200,000 miles on the engine.

#### Cost Summary

**Vehicle Damage:** In 2015 Police Department vehicles were involved in 29 incidents resulting in some degree of body damage including 23 motor vehicle crashes, 3 vandalisms, and 3 incidents with undetermined or unclassified causes. The total pecuniary loss was estimated at **\$47,938.87** (-21% from 2014) of which 78% (\$37,575.94) of the loss was attributed to the 23 motor vehicle crashes. According to the most recent data, Police Department personnel were either the cause, or determined to be at fault in 16 of the 23 reported motor vehicle crashes. Two crashes involved deer collisions, and the remaining 5 were caused by other vehicles.

**Fuel Costs:** According to the data extracted from the Public Works Fleet Maintenance program, the Bismarck Police Department consumed **70,200** gallons of fuel (+9%) at a cost of **\$148,178.51** (-25%). A decline in petroleum prices in 2015 compared to that in previous years contributed to the significant decrease in the overall fuel expense.

**Mileage:** The decreased petroleum cost most certainly helped to lower the annual fuel expense as fuel consumption and total miles driven increased. The sum of miles driven by all department vehicles for 2015 was **787,868** with an increase of 179,709 miles (+29%) from 2014. A majority of the miles driven originated from the Patrol and Traffic divisions (also includes Parking Enforcement and Animal Control).

# *Bismarck Police Department*

## *2015 Annual Report*

### Fleet Report

**Maintenance Costs:** As previously mentioned, Public Works and Dakota Communications perform a majority of maintenance and repairs, unless warranty related, on Police Department vehicles. The maintenance cost for all Police Department vehicles totaled approximately **\$212,152.35** which is an increase of \$105,256.22 (+ 98%) from 2014. However, this data is not an accurate comparative cost analysis due to the fact that this is first year of calculating in the maintenance cost from Dakota Communications which accounted for \$75,367.19 of the total. Otherwise, if comparing the extracted data from 2014 with similar information in 2015 there was only a 27% increase in total maintenance cost.

**2015 Total Operating Cost** (fuel + Maintenance) = **\$360,330.86** (+17% increase).

#### Five Year Comparison

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Vehicles	57	56	56	59	64
Mileage	681,379	721,462	780,485	608,459	787,868
Fuel(gallons)	59,334.50	64,711.70	71,615.101	64,078.43	70,200
Fuel Cost	\$199,228.90	\$213,489.56	\$229,446.92	\$199,077.87	\$148,178.51
Maintenance	\$116,042.96	\$110,435.94	\$136,795.85	\$106,896.13	\$212,152.35
Total Cost	\$315,271.86	\$323,925.50	\$366,242.77	\$305,974	\$360,330.86

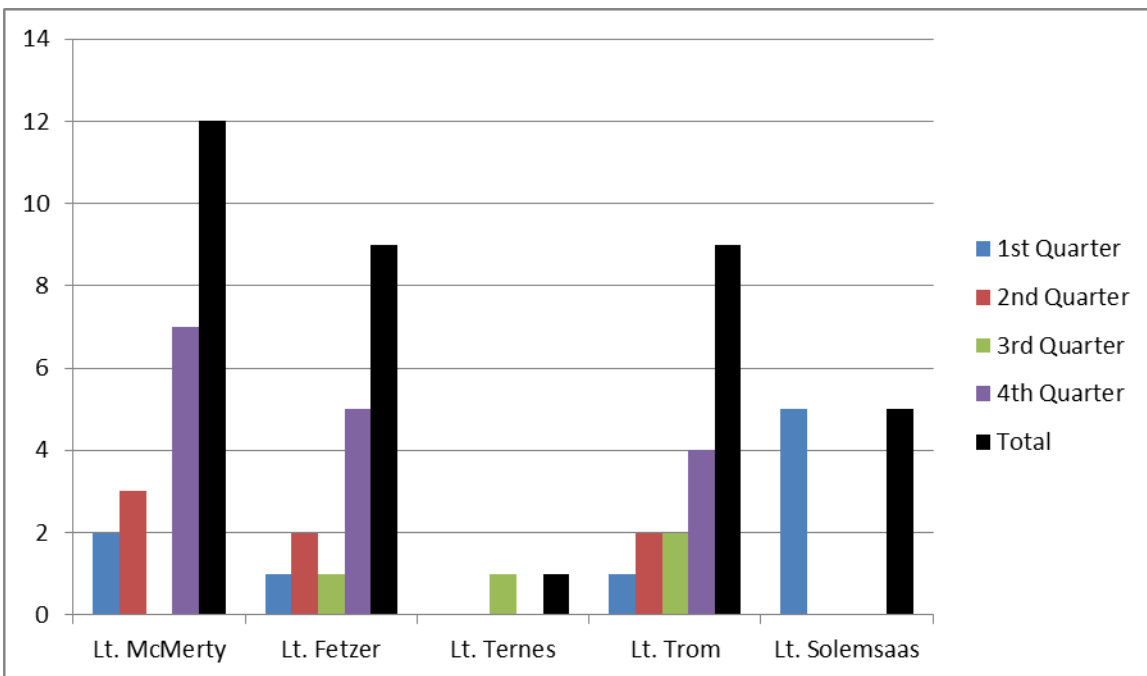
# *Bismarck Police Department*

## *2015 Annual Report*

### Pursuits

In 2015 there were a total of 36 reported instances of a vehicle pursuit/attempting to elude, which is up from 20 in 2014. This is the highest number of these types of incidents since I have been compiling this report. This is an attempt to identify any trends or patterns that may exist and also suggest any possible changes to the current policy governing pursuits/ attempting to elude incidents. The Bismarck PD has a policy that restricts officers from engaging in pursuits unless the violation for which the driver/ occupant is wanted for is one that involves a crime of violence or endangers others. There is a misconception that the department has a “no pursuit” policy but it is, in fact, a limited pursuit policy which is similar to what a large number of law enforcement agencies are using at the present time. This report is intended to fulfill the purposes of an annual analysis.

The following is a breakdown by shift for pursuits/ attempts to elude occasions for 2015 by quarter:



# *Bismarck Police Department*

## *2015 Annual Report*

### Pursuits

	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	total
Lt. McMerty	2	3	0	7	12
Lt. Fetzer	1	2	1	5	9
Lt. Ternes	0	0	1	0	1
Lt. Trom	1	2	2	4	9
Lt. Solemsaas	5	0	0	0	5

In the 2014 report I noted that 50% of the pursuits/ attempting to elude incidents occurred during the daytime hours. Historically, most of the previous years had shown that the majority occurred during the nighttime. In 2015 the trend continued to shift towards more events occurring during the daytime hours in that of the 36 total incidents, 21 (58%) occurred during the daytime, leaving only 15 (42%) occurring during the night hours. For the purposes of this I used the shift schedule so that any occasion between 0700 hours and 1900 hours is considered as daytime, 1900 hours to 0700 hours is considered as night. I can see no common themes during the daytime incidents except that in 16 (76%) of the reported cases, the reason for the attempt to stop was the result of a traffic violation. One could surmise that officers have a greater ability to witness certain violations during the daylight hours such as registration and equipment violations leading to an increase in the likelihood of a traffic stop.

When officers are presented with the decision to pursue or to not pursue, in the majority of circumstances, are making the correct decision to follow the department policy. As noted previously, there were a total of 36 incidents involving the use of a vehicle to flee from an attempt to stop that vehicle. In 29 of those instances (81%), the officer involved terminated the attempt to stop on their own without the direction of a supervisor/ commander. It should also be noted that there were 3 incidents which the officer terminated the attempt to stop but later review showed that the officer(s) had continued the attempt to stop much longer than should have been necessary to determine that the suspect vehicle was fleeing. In each of these situations the officer involved was either given a letter of caution or received verbal counseling from their supervisors/ commanders.

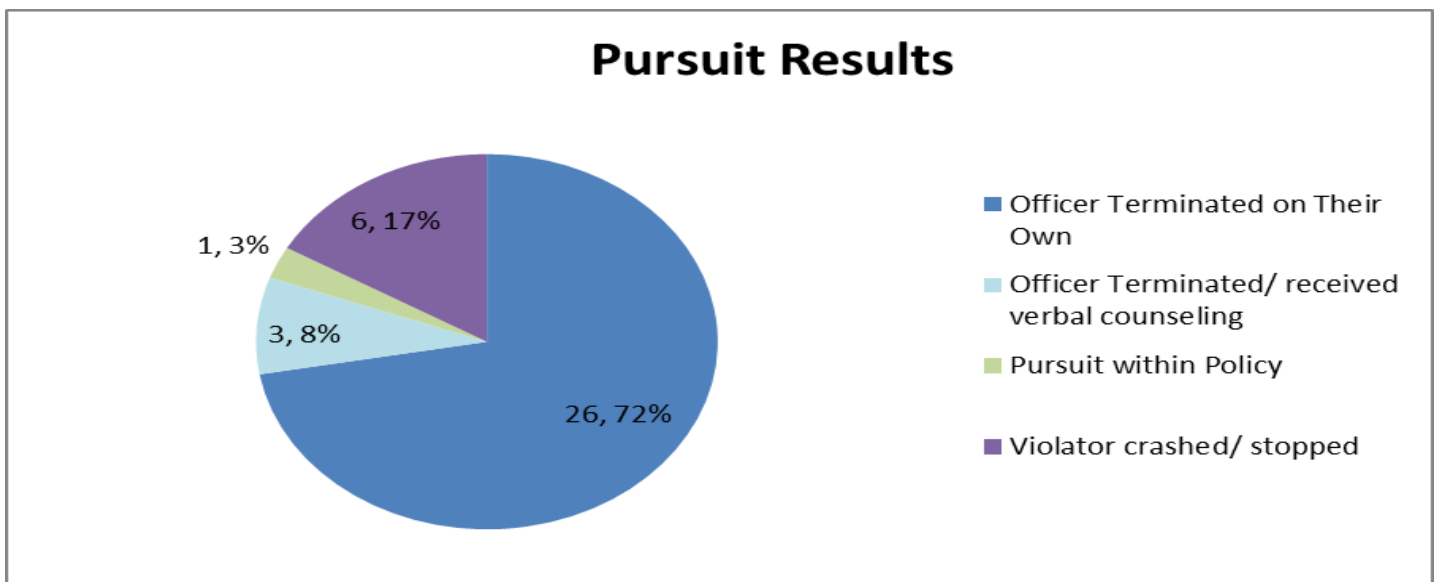


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There was also one incident in which the supervisor ordered the termination of the attempt to stop a fleeing vehicle. In that instance the officer received a letter of caution. This accounts for 8% of the total number of incidents in 2015. There was also 1 pursuit in 2015 that was considered to be within the policy guidelines. In that situation officers had responded to a complaint of a female being assaulted by a male and information was received that the male had forced the female into the vehicle as officers arrived. The vehicle initially failed to stop for the emergency lights and sirens but did eventually comply. It was then discovered that the female victim was not in the vehicle. The following graph demonstrates the results of the incidents in which vehicles fled from officers attempting the stop a vehicle.



There has been a concentrated effort to educate the officers of the importance of following the department policy regarding pursuits. In the past there was a perception that a supervisor or commander had to order the pursuit to be terminated. All officers now understand that they have the expectation and obligation to “self-terminate” the attempt to stop a fleeing vehicle. Since the training has been expanded there has been a greater understanding of the expectations and officers are more likely to discontinue the attempt to stop on their own without the guidance of a supervisor/ commander.

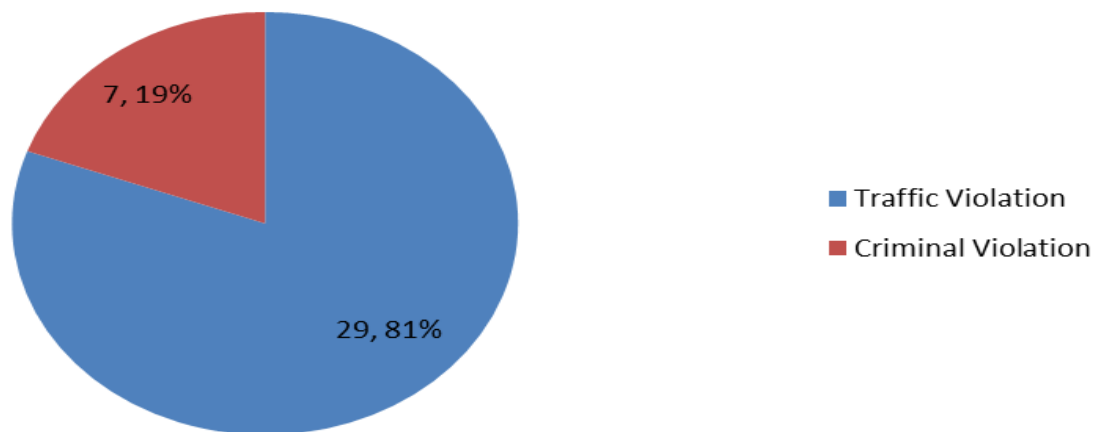
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In 2015 the most common reason for the initial attempt for a traffic stop was for a traffic violation. Of the 36 reported instances, 29 (81%) were for a traffic violation in which the officer observed. The other reason for a traffic stop was for a criminal violation such a physical assault or the driver/occupant wanted for a criminal violation. These occasions account for 7 (19%) of the total incidents in 2015.

**Reason for Traffic Stop**



There were no instances in 2015 in which there was property damage as a result of the fleeing vehicle or police vehicle. In previous years there had been some incidents in which a collision resulted from the attempt to stop a vehicle but that was not seen in 2015.

Under the current Bismarck Police Department policy roadblocks are only to be used in cases of emergency in order to capture persons wanted for criminal violations. In 2015 there were no cases of a roadblock being used. There were also no instances in which the spike strips were used to bring an end to a vehicle pursuit. The likelihood of using the spike strips in a pursuit situation are somewhat limited in that the department has very few vehicle pursuits and when they do occur there is limited time given to properly utilize the spike strips. Recently the department has begun a policy in which supervisors and senior officers on the patrol shifts are given training in the use of the spike strips. The goal is that this training will be more frequent as this is certainly a perishable skill that requires reinforcement that can only be achieved through training.

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Due to the fact that, nationwide, many officers are seriously injured or killed while deploying spike strips I had some large concerns with allowing all officers access to the spike strips. This was a concern that I voiced in last year's analysis that has been placed into policy. I don't believe that this will cause any issues for the response to a pursuit type situation but I will continue to monitor this change to determine if more officers should receive training in the use of spike strips.

I did note that there was a significant increase in the amount of reported instances of a vehicle fleeing from an attempted traffic stop. In 2015 there were a total of 36 fleeing/attempting to elude incidents. This is an 80% increase in the previous year's incidents. It may well be explained that officers are more likely to complete a report of a vehicle fleeing from a traffic stop which could show the dramatic increase. It is also possible that there are more offenders that are fleeing from officers. There is a common mentality among a certain segment of the public that believes that the consequences from fleeing are minor compared to the risks. If a person is given a choice between being arrested for Driving under the Influence or Fleeing in a motor Vehicle, the decision would always be the fleeing charge. With a DUI arrest a driver will likely lose their driving privileges whereas a fleeing charge does not necessarily result in the loss of the license.

I am pleased to see that officers are more likely to report a vehicle that fled from them as this indicates that officers are not feeling that the department is trying to find some fault in what they did. The frequent reinforcement of the dangers presented in pursuit incidents and the importance of following policy seems to have resulted in greater compliance with the current policy.

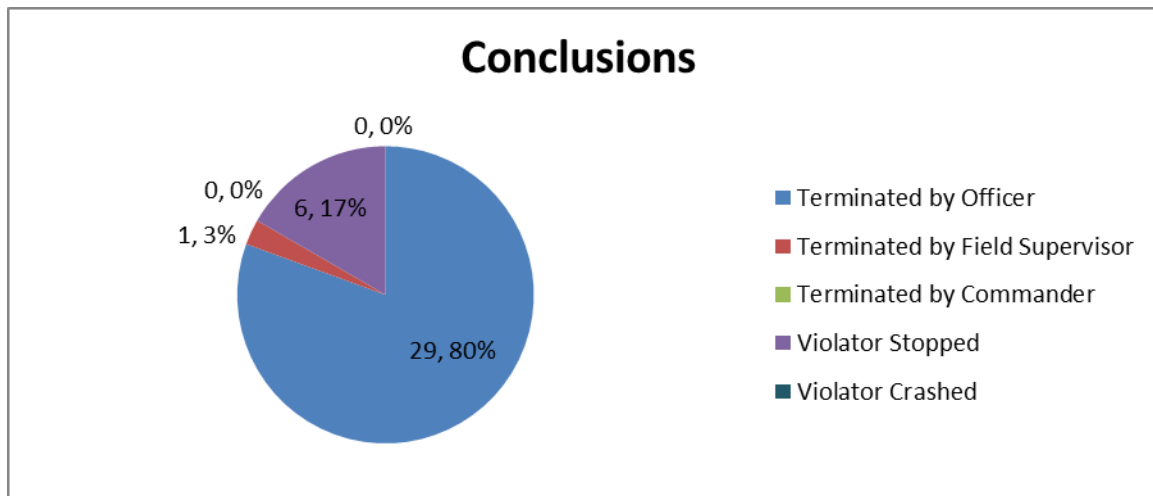
The following lists the conclusions of the instances in 2015:

Incident Terminated by Officer	29
Incident Terminated by Field Supervisor	1
Incident Terminated by Duty Commander	0
Violator Stopped	6
Violator Crashed	0

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With the above being stated, I cannot see any significant trends that would warrant a change in the current policy regarding vehicle pursuits. It appears that the training of the officers has been successful which is reflected in the high voluntary compliance with expectation of self-termination when the officers are faced with a “pursue/don’t pursue” situation. I also recommend that the department continue with the quarterly and annual analysis of these incidents.

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**Bismarck Police Department**

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